Thacher

HERALDIC DESCRIPTION

ARMS: Gules, a cross moline *argent;* on a chief *d'or*, three grasshoppers, proper.

CREST: A grasshopper, proper, resting on a helmet, visor closed.

CS71
.T367
1993x

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Elwood James[ii] Thacher
1907 -

Biographical Record
1907 - 1993

Boston Branch

Direct Descendant of
Rev. Peter Thacher 1545 - 1624*
Queen Camel, Somerset, England

*Most remote Thacher ancestor. Genealogy books "Thomas Thacher 1620-1678" by Elwood James Thacher. Copies on file Harford Township Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania, and selected libraries in all States of the Continental United States (Anthony Thacher 1588-1667 genealogy, Volume One Page 114).

Elwood James[11] Thacher
1907 -

Biographical Record
1907 - 1993

Boston Branch

Direct Descendant of
Rev. Peter[1] Thacher 1545 - 1624*
Queen Camel, Somerset, England

Compiled By

Elwood James[11] Thacher
Winter Haven
Florida
1993

CS71
.T307
1993p

*See page 1

Elwood James Thacher[11]
United States Geological Survey
Retired
1967

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Elwood James[ii] Thacher
1907 -
Biographical Record
1907 - 1993

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Elwood James[ii] Thacher
1907 -

Biographical Record
1907 - 1993

Dedicated To

My Children;

William Peter 1937

Elwood James 1939

Thomas Wayne 1945

My Grand Children;

William Craig 1960

Jeffrey Lukens 1962

Cheryl Ann 1972

Deborah Leigh 1973

Donna Michelle 1970

Sherry Lynn 1972

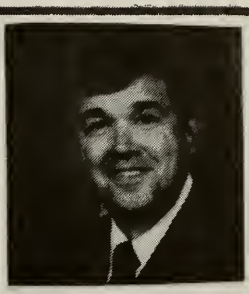
My Great Grand Children;

Danielle Louise 1989

William Zachary 1993

William Peter

Elwood James



Thomas Wayne

William Craig

Cheryl Ann

Donna Michelle

Jeffrey Lukens

Deborah Leigh

Sherry Lynn

Danielle Louise

April

1993

William Zachary

United States

William Craig left, Janet Lukens,
William Peter, Jeffrey Lukens

Cheryl Ann left, Patricia Schultze,
Deborah Leigh

Donna Michelle left, Thomas Wayne, Betty Wilson, Brian O'Donnell, Sherry Lynn

Nancy Allen left, Danielle Louise, Jeffrey Lukens

Elwood James[II] Thacher
1907 -

Biographical Record
1907 - 1993

ELWOOD JAMES[11] THACHER[8] (William Peter[10], James Peter[9], Peter[4], Peter[7], John[6], Rev. Peter[5], Rev. Ralph[4], Rev. Thomas[3], Rev. Peter[2], Rev. Peter[1]) born Tuesday, July 23, 1907, at Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania; resided at Wilkes-Barre and Scranton, Pennsylvania, Arlington, Virginia, Frederick, Maryland and Winter Haven, Florida; he was a surveyor, and civil engineer for the United States Geological Survey, Washington, D.C.,; retired from government service in 1967; graduated from Coughlin High School, Wilkes-Barre, in 1926; Pennsylvania State College Branch School of Civil Engineering in 1933; studied cartography and mapping at the U.S. Department of Agriculture School, Washington, D.C., in 1949; civil engineering at the University of Virginia Branch School, Arlington, Virginia, from 1951 through 1953; electronic data processing at the Burroughs Corporation, Washington, D.C., in 1961; married Arline Beatrice Millham of Wilkes-Barre, on Tuesday, February 12, 1935. The Rev. Wilton J. Dubrick, minister of the Bennett Memorial Methodist Church of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, performed the ceremony; Arline Millham was born in Wilkes-Barre, on Wednesday, December 14, 1910; she died at Winter Haven, Florida on February 28th, 1974; her place of residence before marriage was Wilkes-Barre; she was a daughter of Ernest Roth Millham and his wife Fannie Merle (Hinkle) Millham of Wilkes-Barre; Ernest Millham was a politician and a construction foreman for the Pennsylvania Department of Highways in Luzerne County; he was born at Wilkes-Barre, on Friday, September 28, 1877; he died at Wilkes-Barre, on Monday, June 14, 1948, and was buried in the Millham grave lot in Hanover Green Cemetery, Hanover Green, Pennsylvania, (just a few miles

south of Wilkes-Barre); Fannie Hinkle Millham, his wife was born at Briggsville, Pennsylvania on Saturday, February 3, 1883; she died at Wilkes-Barre, on Wednesday, September 16, 1959, and was buried in the Hanover Green Cemetery where a grave stone marks her resting place; Ernest Millham and Fannie Hinkle were married at Binghamton, New York on Monday, October 8, 1900, by Rector Samuel Denman Day of the Church of Good Shepard; they resided in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Children: 3 (Thacher) 3 sons, first two born in Scranton, Pennsylvania; last born in Arlington, Virginia.

WILLIAM PETER[12] 74
born Wednesday, March 3rd, 1937, at Scranton, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania; married Helen Janet Lukens.

ELWOOD JAMES[12] 75
born Sunday, February 5th, 1939, at Scranton, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania; married Patricia Lynne Schultze.

THOMAS WAYNE[12] 76
born Friday, July 6th, 1945, at Arlington, Arlington County, Virginia; married Betty Ann Wilson.

ELWOOD JAMES[11] THACHER was born on Tuesday, July 23, 1907, in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. He was baptized in the Bennett Memorial Methodist Church on New Grant Street. He completed grammar school at the Hillard Grove School in East End, and his junior high school years at the Union Street School on the corner of Union and Washington Streets, about a mile from his home. The building was torn down years ago in the 1940's, and a gas station stands there now. He graduated from Coughlin High School in downtown Wilkes-Barre in 1926. Students walked to and from school then, and High School classes began at 8:30 in the morning and ended at 1:15

p.m. Snow days were unheard of and the winters were long and snowy. It was not uncommon in the early 1900's for a heavy snow fall in November and stay snowy, icy and cold, for the rest of the winter. There were no high school study periods, no time outs, and no lunch periods. Before graduating, Elwood Thacher, along with three other students from the technical class, was interviewed by a representative of the Hudson Coal Company's engineering department during their recruiting program.

The Hudson Coal Company was a large and prominent organization in the anthracite coal fields with main offices in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Elwood accepted a job in their engineering department, and reported to Mr. Al Yetter the engineer in charge of all mining engineering for the company on July 1, 1926. His first assignment was at Pine Ridge colliery in Miners Mills, Pennsylvania, located about four miles from his home. Mr. Bruce S. Davies of Forty Fort was the colliery engineer then and Mr. James (Jimmy) Dixon was the superintendent. The men of the engineering department were John Dunnigan and Paul Carlin of Kingston, Howard Richards of Forty Fort and John Pero of Parsons. The Hudson Coal Company had several collieries like this one throughout Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties from Carbondale on the north to Plymouth on the south. Anthracite coal was first discovered in Carbondale by the Wurts brothers in the early 1800's, and it was first mined in 1822 by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. The Hudson Coal Comapny had collieries in Coalbrook, Carbondale, Olyphant, Jermyn, Marvine in Scranton, Pine Ridge and Delaware in Miners Mills, Baltimore in Parsons, and Loree Plymouth. The company had others but these were the large ones.

LOREE BREAKER
PLYMOUTH, PENNSYLVANIA

Built in 131 days after the old wooden breaker burned to the ground on the same sight. This breaker could process 6000 tons of Anthracite coal a day. In 1921 it prepared 1,502, 180 long tons for market, a world's record for a single plant. In 1930 Elwood James[11] Thacher worked at the Loree Colliery, as a surveyor in the Engineering Department.

When the stock market crashed in 1929, a great depression followed. Thousands of men lost their jobs and those who were fortunate enough to hold on were subjected to drastic reductions in salary without promotions. Elwood[11] Thacher was assigned to the Loree Colliery in 1931, and during his tour of duty there, studied civil engineering at the Pennsylvania State College branch school in Wilkes-Barre. He graduated in 1933 and was awarded a diploma in civil engineering. The Chicago Worlds Fair was in progress then and he and his father William Peter[10] Thacher visited Illinois and the Fair that year on vacation.

In 1936, Elwood[11] Thacher was assigned to the Marvine Colliery in Scranton. The Colliery is nonexistent now, and has been for a number of years, along with the Hudson Coal Company. It was sold to the Glen Alden Coal Company. Elwood worked for the Hudson Coal Company for fourteen years, advancing as surveyor and map maker, and had worked at all of the companies' operations. His assignments and responsibilities were varied and included many types of engineering, including mine surveys, land development, building and highway surveys, topography and mathematical computations. He compiled large and small scale maps, and detailed cross sections of the earths strata. Mining engineering had many diversified parts to it.

In 1939, Elwood[11] Thacher prepared for a Pennsylvania State Board Mine Foreman's examination to be taken in Scranton, Pennsylvania. The written examination required two days to complete and was taken on July 19th and 20th, under the direction of State Mine Inspector Mr. L. M. Evans and Mr. Jos. J. Walsh, Deputy Secretary of Mines for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 25, 1939. The certificate, number 5786, was entered into the

Pennsylvania Anthracite Mine Foreman's Certificate Book, Volume 8 as a permanent record. Elwood[11] Thacher was appointed section foreman at the Marvine Colliery a short time later where he supervised mining operations in several veins of coal. But after learning that the coal business was in a deteriorating decline, he choose to advance his engineering training elsewhere. In June of 1940 he applied to the United States Civil Service Commission in Washington, D.C., for an engineering position with the Geological Survey. In July 1940 he passed the Civil Service examination and was appointed a Senior Engineering Aid. He reported to Mr. Albert Pike, Division Engineer in Charge of the Atlantic Region, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., on October 16th, 1940.

Elwood[11] Thacher was 33 years old when he left the Hudson Coal Company to start a new engineering career with the United States Geological Survey, and during the next nearly thirty years with the Survey, he enjoyed many assignments and responsibilities. He was first assigned to planetable surveys in Tazewell, Virginia. Six months later, in December of 1940, he was engaged in topographic surveys and mapping in Piedmont, Alabama. In the spring of 1941 he was sent to Topsfield, Maine, to assist in mapping the Scraggley Lake area, a very rugged terrain in the north woods of Maine, near the Canadian border. The area was almost 100 percent evergreen woods. Geodetic surveys were few and far between here and Geological Survey mapping engineers were required to provide their own control surveys for the mapping project. After a minimum amount of planetable triangulation and surveys, topographic mapping operations began.

It was early spring and some snow was still on

the ground and topographic mapping was difficult to say the least. Thus, a type of mapping was used here that probably will never be used again. "Hoop and Holler" surveys the engineers called it. This was a type of survey where the engineer used a blank white double-mounted sheet of paper for plotting control points and topography, a planetable, an alidade instrument with compass, and an aneroid elevation meter for plotting heights of terrain. "Hoop and Holler" surveys were calls between the rodman and the engineer. The rodman pulled a 300 foot rope tape ahead to the limit, stretched the rope tight and called back to the engineer who in turn pointed his instrument in the direction of the rodman and plotted a position. The engineer then advanced plotting terrain elevation changes with his aneroid as he went along.

Geological Survey parties moved out of Maine just ahead of the snow in December of 1941, and Elwood Thacher[11] along with ten other engineers was assigned to Photogrammetric mapping at the Survey's new Clarendon office building in Arlington, Virginia. Photogrammetric mapping, was a practically new method of compiling maps in 1941, and it was done from glass negatives of aerial photography, with the use of Photogrammetric mapping instruments called Multiplex. This machine was one of the first instruments used by the Geological Survey in 1942 to produce topographic maps in volume. The Multiplex is obsolete now, and far better and more precise instruments are employed in map compilation.

In the spring of 1942 Elwood[11] Thacher was assigned to urban field mapping in the city of Taunton, Massachusetts, and it was here that he was promoted to assistant topographic engineer, and reassigned to the Newburyport East quadrangle also in Massachusetts. This was a very special assignment to him in that his Thacher

ancestors had landed nearby and had lived at Ipswich for a short time. They came to America from England in 1635. Elwood Thacher completed the Newburyport map and returned to the Arlington, Virginia, office and Photogrammetric mapping in November of 1942. Shortly after his return he became chairman of the Survey's Atlantic Region social activities for both field engineers and officer personnel. A chairmanship he held for more than ten years.

During the war years Elwood[11] Thacher was advanced to Photogrammetric Engineer and supervised map compilation of foreign areas needed by the army and military services. Thousands of square miles of topographic maps were compiled every month from aerial photography taken at 30,000 - 35,000 feet above the ground. Priority maps were delivered by security personnel to army headquarters in Washington, D.C., for immediate processing the day they were completed, and after a few hours of army processing, copies were flown to command fronts. Some military maps were even developed from 30 degree convergent photography taken miles away from the target area.

After the war, mapping by photogrammetric means from aerial photography became a profession and was recognized in all parts of the world. The United States Geological Survey was known around the world as a forerunner in research and mapping techniques and photogrammetric methods. The Survey had various types of mapping instruments, but the Multiplex stereomapping equipment that was employed in large numbers from 1941 was the first mechanical means used to produce planimetric and topographic maps in volume. The science of Photogrammetry has grown ten fold since 1941 and now maps can be produced electronically.

In January of 1953, Elwood[11] Thacher was assigned to the Geological Survey's office of Research and Technical Control in Washington, D.C., as an inspector of contract maps. Contract mapping was not a usual procedure in the Geological Survey but initiated after the war to advance certain areas of topographic mapping in the continental United States. It was a two-million dollar contract mapping program and required two Geological Survey inspectors to oversee the map compilation and maintain Geological Survey standards and specifications. Contract mapping plants were located as far south as Texas, and as far west as California, and the inspectors were required to travel long distances by air, train, and car, for staff appointments, and to examine completed maps for final Geological Survey processing and publication.

After the contract mapping program was completed, Elwood[11] Thacher was promoted to Chief of Plans in the Geological Survey's Atlantic Region office on August 21st, 1956. He was responsible for the mapping programs of twenty-two eastern states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. He also had the task of developing new program procedures for Field Surveys, Photogrammetry, and Cartography. In 1957 he initiated the starting developments of the Atlantic Region's first computerized mapping program, a tabulation of mapping operations in the field and in the office.

On April 19, 1959, Elwood[11] Thacher was detailed to the Geological Survey's Staff in Washington, D.C., in the office of Program Development, Branch of Program Control, Research and Analysis. His staff responsibilities included analyzing and evaluating topographic mapping programs of the four Geological Survey regions in the United States for conformance with staff standards and specifications. In this assignement he developed

the first draft of instructions for standard mapping program procedures. On completion of his Washington Staff assignments he returned to the Atlantic Region office in Arlington, Virginia, in January of 1961. During the following six years he developed new office procedures and map program control systems still in use. He retired from the Geological Survey in 1967 as Chief of Plans and Program Control. Two of his largest map planning programs involved the complete topographic mapping of the states of Ohio and Virginia, amounting to over twelve million dollars. The Ohio mapping program was completed as planned in a little over three years. A total of over 40,000 square miles of mapping and the production of over 600 quadrangle maps. The mapping program for the State of Virginia was comparable to that of Ohio, but was scheduled for completion in 1971.

Elwood[11] Thacher had many titles and positions and a very interesting and responsible career in his almost thirty years of civil service with the United States Geological Survey. He was well liked by his staff associates and fellow workers. Nothing was insignificant, he would go out of his way to help anyone, any time.

On January 24, 1969, at ceremonies in the Department of Interior building in Washington, D.C., Elwood[11] Thacher was presented with an honor award scroll and a solid silver service metal and lapel pin of the Department of Interior. He was also presented with a service award citation from the Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Walter J. Hickel, for Meritorious Service in performing his duties with the United States Geological Survey.

It is interesting to note some of the small uneventful happenings so much a part of everyone's growing-up years. Elwood Thacher attended church and Sunday School regularly in his youth and was promoted from his third Sunday School class in 1916. In those days it was the practice of the Bennett Memorial Methodist Church to award young children with a church book "Christ Comforteth" as a rememberance of their early Sunday School years. A simple but impressive little book with many bible verses so very important in every day living, even today. This small book of bible verses, still in good condition, is preserved with other Thacher family keepsakes. The little white church on the hill, "The Bennett Memorial Methodist Church" stands on the corner of New Grant and Chapel Streets today, just as white and picturesque as it was when it was dedicated in 1894.

The Thacher family attended the Bennett Church for over sixty years. Minnie Werry Thacher was the last to attend regularly. She had a stroke in 1968 and was later confined as a resident of the Green Ridge Convalescent Home in Scranton, Pennsylvania, from August 1968 until she died in July, 1971. Minnie was married by the Rev. J. N. Goodrich D.D. pastor of the Bennett Church in 1906. Minnie Thacher had four sons Elwood James, 1907, Sheldon William, 1912, Clifford James, 1914, and Merlyn James, 1920. For the benefit of posterity and the Thacher family, a short story of the "Little White Church on the Hill" is included in this Genealogy.

In 1920, at the age of thirteen, Elwood was a paper boy and delivered a hundred Times Leader newspapers, from the Delaware and Hudson's railroad terminal on Scott Street, to the other end of Scott Street about a mile away. The Times Leader was an independent newspaper then, and the plant and printing presses were located

on West Market Street about a block away from the square in Central City. Their printing presses, were visible through large plate-glass windows, on the street side of the building, and many public viewers watched the machines print, assemble, count and stack hundreds of newspapers every minute. All of the Wilkes-Barre's newspapers are consolidated now as the "Times Leader, The Evening News, Wilkes-Barre Record," and are published from the Record Plant on North Main Street.

It was also about 1920 when the O'Dea's, neighbors of the Thacher family, had a small dairy at their residence on Chapel Street, just across the street from the Bennett Church. Many a day Elwood would be on hand early in the morning to help the milkman deliver milk in the neighborhood. Delivering milk in those days, meant dipping it out of a large milkcan with a long-handled quart-pint sized dipper, and then pouring the milk into a container not always a bottle. Sometimes the customer would have only a dish, a growler, or whatever was handy to put the milk in.

During Elwood's junior high, and high school years, pocket money for movies and other pleasures had to be earned, and he worked for a Kulp family on Union Street in 1922 doing odd jobs before and after school. Some neighborhood movies were only a nickle then, and you could buy good candy at two pieces for a penny.

In the early 1900's a family grocery store account was almost a must and the Thacher family bought mostly all of their groceries and other family needs from the McGinley Brothers in East End. McGinley's store was a combination department and grocery store and was located in East End on Scott Street near the No. 8 Fire Engine House. From 1906 until the store went

out of business in the late twenties or early thirties, the Thachers delt here and believe it or not the cost of food was expensive too, when compared to the wages earned then, and now. In 1910, grocery store prices and miscellaneous items were priced pretty low as shown in the list below. In 1972, and 1979 these same items were priced a lot higher as shown on the right. Wages, of course, were much higher too, as the time span is over sixty years. But it's nice to note how groceries, clothing and miscellaneous items have increased through the years. From W.P. Thacher's 1910 McGinley Brothers account book we note:

ITEM	1910	1972	1979
10 lb. sugar	68 cents	$1.37	$2.44
1 qt. milk	10 cents	.32	.68
1 dz. eggs	26 cents	.69	.75
1 sp. thread	5 cents	.30	.45
1 dz. oranges	30 cents	1.20	1.60
1 bx. cornflakes	10 cents	.30	.68
1 bx. shreaded wheat	13 cents	.39	.63
1 lb. coffee	30 cents	1.09	2.55
1 btle. amonia	10 cents	.25	.35
25 lbs. flour	90 cents	2.65	4.90
1 gal. lamp oil	12 cents	.26	.60
1 btle. catsup	10 cents	.31	.59
1 can hand soap	10 cents	.23	.75
1 dz. lemons	30 cents	.70	1.09
1 can karo syrup	10 cents	.41	.72
1 lb. cheese	23 cents	1.00	2.80
1 bx. corn starch	9 cents	.29	.45
1 bx. blue tip matches	5 cents	.30	.40
1 bar soap	5 cents	.11	.26
1 bx. raisens	12 cents	.30	1.99
1 pr. shoes	2 dollars	7.00	18.00
1 pr. pumps	1 dollar	3.00	9.00
1 lb. ginger snaps	8 cents	.53	.95
1 can mollases	15 cents	.45	.99
1 Christmas tree	50 cents	5.00	6.50
2 lbs. nuts	25 cents	1.40	3.00

ITEM	1910	1972	1979
1 pk. tobacco	5 cents	.35	.50
1 hd. lettuce	7 cents	.39	.49
1 bu. cellery	12 cents	.29	.49
1 broom	35 cents	1.50	3.59
1 lb. cornmeal	10 cents	.24	.51
1 jar mustard	10 cents	.18	.40
1 hd. cabbage	6 cents	.40	.63
1 can tomatoes	9 cents	.35	.48
1 lb. butter	35 cents	.85	1.79
1 lb. bacon	27 cents	.99	1.54
1 can corn	8 cents	.29	.38
1 lamp globe	10 cents	.80	1.10
1 can sardines	5 cents	.21	.59
1 can baking powder	10 cents	.39	.51
1 jar horse radish	10 cents	.25	.72
1 btle. vanilla	10 cents	.40	.98
1 pr. boots	3 dollars	8.75	10.50
1 shirt	50 cents	3.50	9.95
1 suit long underwear	1 dollar	3.25	4.50
1 hammock	2 dollars	7.95	10.50
4 yds. linen	1 dollar	12.00	14.00
1 pr. slippers	50 cents	2.95	6.95
1 sweater	2 dollars	7.95	13.00
1 pr. pants	1 dollar	6.95	10.95
1 pr. artics	2 dollars	5.95	11.95
1 pr. oxfords	3 dollars	10.00	16.00

Elwood Thacher took on heavier work during his high school summer vacations. In 1923 he worked for the B.G. Coon Construction Company, road builders. At that time the East End Boulevard, Route 115, Wilkes-Barre, was being concreted for the first time, and Elwood's job was assemblying reinforcement steel for the concrete. On random occasions he assisted the surveying crew placing grade stakes and performing as a rodman. In the summer of 1924 he worked in the shipping department of the Sheldon Axle and Spring Works on Cunningham Avenue. Sometimes loading open freight cars with steel and axles, and at other

times working the spring tempering section where the hot springs from the furnaces were deep dipped into tempering vats of oil, and then later polished. In the summer of 1925 he worked for the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey removing six and eight-inch oil pipe lines abandoned from service. The oil line began in Parsons, Pennsylvania, just a few miles north of Wilkes-Barre, and wound its way over the mountains, east through the Poconas to New Jersey. Elwood worked on this job all summer with the tong crew, walking back and forth to the job from home until the work reached Bear Creek, nine miles away. After that he camped out with the men in tents and eating in a large make-do mess hall.

It was an odd job disconnecting the long lengths of oil pipe line, and a tong crew's job was mainly operating a long-handled tong which was all steel and very heavy. The tong had a strong bicycle type link-chain permanently attached on one end, with the rest of the chain hanging loose. This loose chain was wrapped around the pipe and attached to a stop on the tong. With one man tapping on the top of the pipe-joint with a ballpean hammer, and four or five men pulling down on the tong, the pipe seal was loosened and then with a ratchet type operation of the tong on the pipe, the pipe was unscrewed and removed. These pipes were later removed to storing stations by pickup crews with pairs of strong horses. The pipes were then shipped by railroad to the oil plant in New Jersey.

Elwood joined the Susquehanna Chapter Order of DeMolay in 1922, a fraternity dedicated for the good of young men until they reached their majority, age 21. He was an active member participating in all activities, and fraternal offices as time went on. He was elected Master Councilor of the Susquehanna Chapter in June of

1926, and was awarded a Master Councilor's Jewel after completing his term of office. The Jewel in good condition is kept with families' keepsakes. From 1931 to 1933, Elwood attended the Pennsylvania State College Evening School, and along with his studies required for Civil Engineering, he was the school's backetball manager, and student chairman of the Social Club for schoolastic affairs. He was runner up for Penn State's all around student award in 1933. After graduating, he was the Alumni's secretary for many years.

Elwood Thacher applied for membership in the Masonic Lodge No. 61 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, in 1955, and after due process was elected into the Fraternity. He later advanced in all degrees, and became a member of the York Rite and Consistory Lodges. He completed his Masonic travels in 1956 with initiation and membership in the Irem Temple Shrine, in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

For over thirty years, from the time he was old enough to carry a gun, Elwood hunted large and small game in many counties throughout Pennsylvania with his father, William Peter Thacher, who was also an avid hunter and fisherman. William Thacher died in 1957 at the age of 72, his wife Minnie Werry Thacher died in 1971. She was 84.

Even though people were generally content in the early years of the 20th century, it was also a period of war, change, and progress. In 1917 the 1st World War broke out; then came the war in Europe with Hitler, and the attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese in 1941; then the undeclared war in Viet Nam, southeast asia developed, and progress in the United States became bumpy. Great numbers of people were very upset over an undeclared war, and conditions in

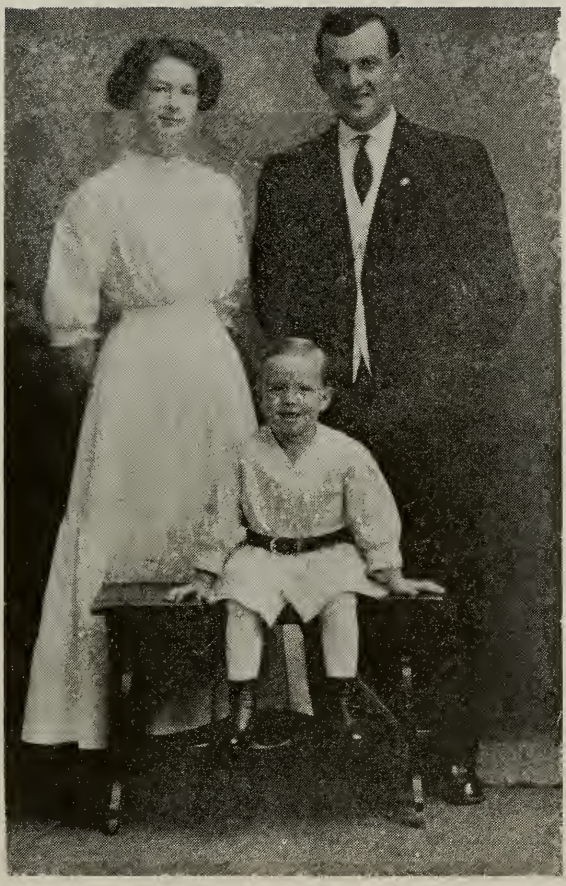
the U.S. became very unruly to say the least. Race and color disturbances, destruction, and physical fights developed. Confrontations with police and government happened again and again. Young people and college students rebelled causing tremendous damage to our colleges and campuses. It was a definite period of basic change in the 1960's. Young men and young women changed their codes of living, along with their dress, culture, and morality. Relations with parents and one another changed. It was not until the early 1970's that conditions of unsettledness quieted down somewhat. But even considering these periods of upheaval there was progress, and every U.S. president from McKinley to Nixon helped pave the way through science and common sense, for better things and better living for the majority of the peoples. Walking gave way to horses and wagons; horses and wagons gave way to street cars and trains; street cars and trains gave way to automobiles; automobiles gave way to airplanes and air travel; space landings on the moon is now reality; man's ability to survive in space is almost here; air travel will soon be space travel and lunar travel will follow. The good lord willing, science will march on, and many advances will come to pass for the benefit of mankind.

Elwood James[11] Thacher

Elwood James[11] Thacher

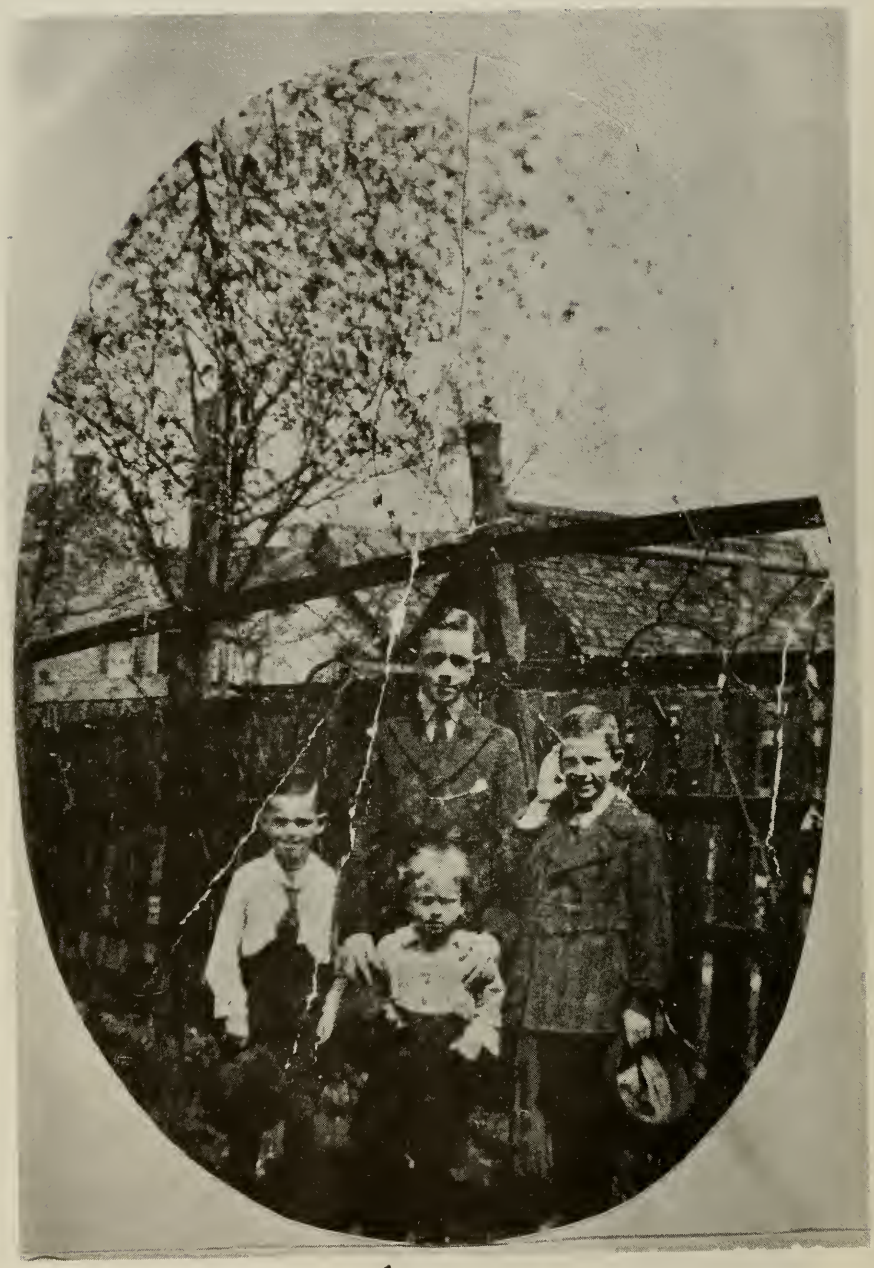
1907

1909



William Peter[10] Thacher
1885-1957
Minnie Werry Thacher
1887-1971
Elwood James[11] Thacher
1907-

1909



Elwood James Thacher, rear
and brothers
Clifford James left, Merlyn James front,
Sheldon William, right,
New Grant Street
Wilkes - Barre, Pennsylvania
1921

Flora Webb Thacher
and
Grandchildren
William Wallace " back left,
Leon Webb " back right,
Flora Dorcas " left center,
Flora Webb Thacher seated,
Elwood James " right center,
Sheldon William " front,
Lanesboro, Pennsylvania
1915

Elwood James " Thacher left,
Edward Lowe,
Russell Allabaugh
Wilkes - Barre, Pennsylvania
1926

Susquehanna Chapter
Order of De Molay
Degree Team
Elwood James Thacher, past master
(Front row right)
1926

Pennsylvania State College
Wilkes-Barre Campus
Graduating Class
Elwood James Thacher, C.E.
(Front row, second from left)
1933

Thacher Reunion
Nay Aug Park, Scranton, Pennsylvania
1938

Thacher Reunion
Nay Aug Park
Scranton, Pennsylvania
1938

1. William Joseph Werry, Jr., father of Minnie Werry Thacher, 2.

2. Minnie Werry Thacher.

3. Dorothy Walsh Thacher, wife of Sheldon William[11] Thacher, 11.

4. Merlyn James[11] Thacher, husband of Kathryn Wenner Thacher, 13.

5. Mildred Jones Thacher, wife of Clifford James[11] Thacher, 6.

6. Clifford James[11] Thacher, son of Minnie Werry Thacher, 2.

7. Carol Ann[12] Thacher, daughter of Clifford James[11] Thacher, 6.

8. Elwood James[11] Thacher, son of Minnie Werry Thacher, 2.

9. William Peter[12] Thacher, son of Elwood James[11] Thacher, 8.

10. Arline Millham Thacher, wife of Elwood James[11] Thacher, 8.

11. Sheldon William[11] Thacher, son of Minnie Werry Thacher, 2.

12. June Elizabeth[12] Thacher, daughter of Sheldon William[11] Thacher, 11.

13. Kathryn Wenner Thacher, wife of Merlyn James[11] Thacher, 4.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Department of Mines

Whereas, *It appears by report No.* 275 *of the Board of Examiners of the* Third *Anthracite Inspection District, dated the* 25th *day of* August 1939 *, that*

.... Elwood James Thacher ....

who was born in Pennsylvania *, is* 32 *years old, and has rendered service in and about the mines as follows:*

Five Years As Miner And One Year At General Company Work

has passed the required examination for

Mine Foreman

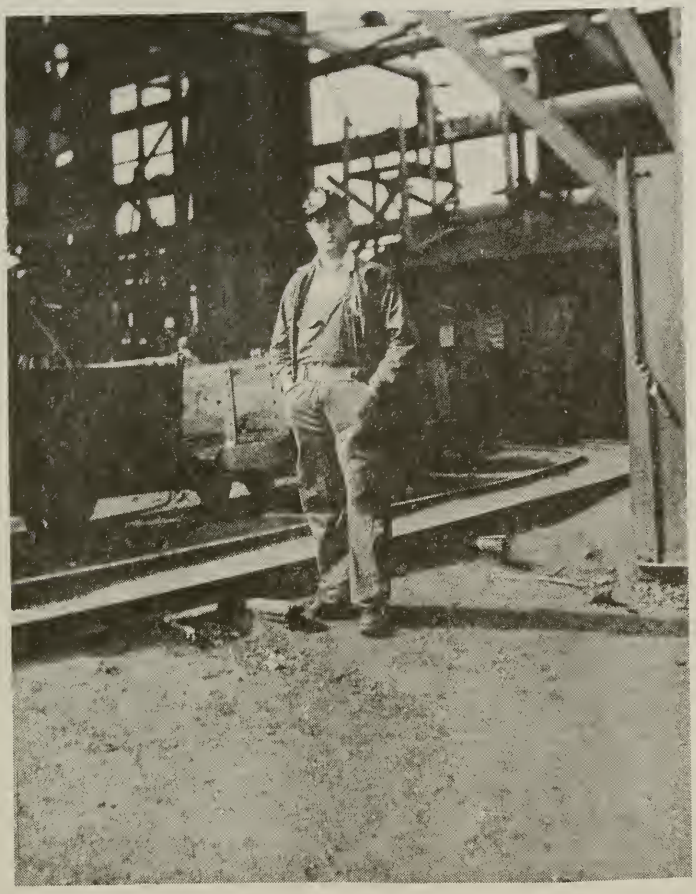
and given satisfactory evidence of fitness as to good conduct, capability and sobriety, in accordance with the provisions of the Acts of the General Assembly approved June 2, 1891 and April 14, 1903, and amendments and supplements thereto, the **Secretary of Mines** *does grant to the above-named applicant this Certificate of Qualification as* **Mine Foreman.**

In Witness Whereof, *The Secretary of Mines has hereunto set his hand and caused the Seal of the Department of Mines to be affixed at Harrisburg, the* First *day of* September 1939

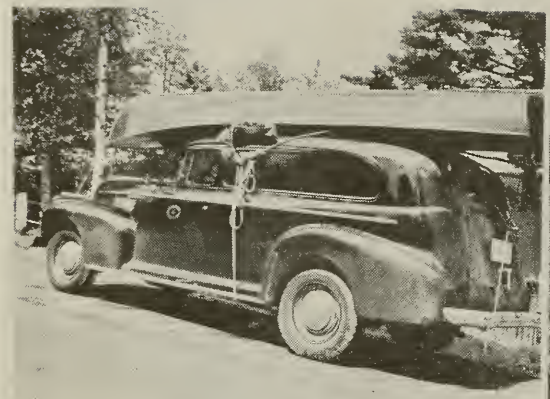
John Da Kuna

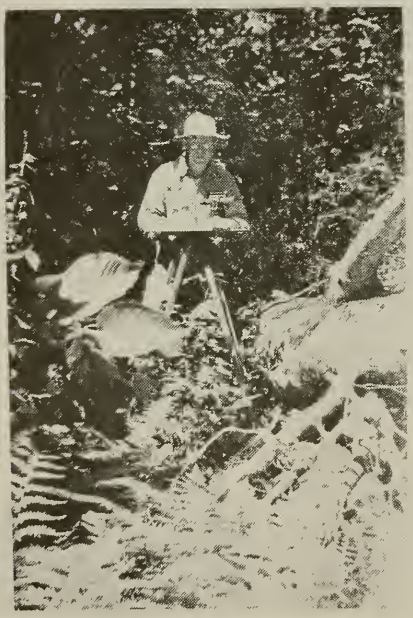
Secretary of Mines

No. 5786 *Enrolled in Anthracite Mine Foremen's Certificate Book Volume* 8

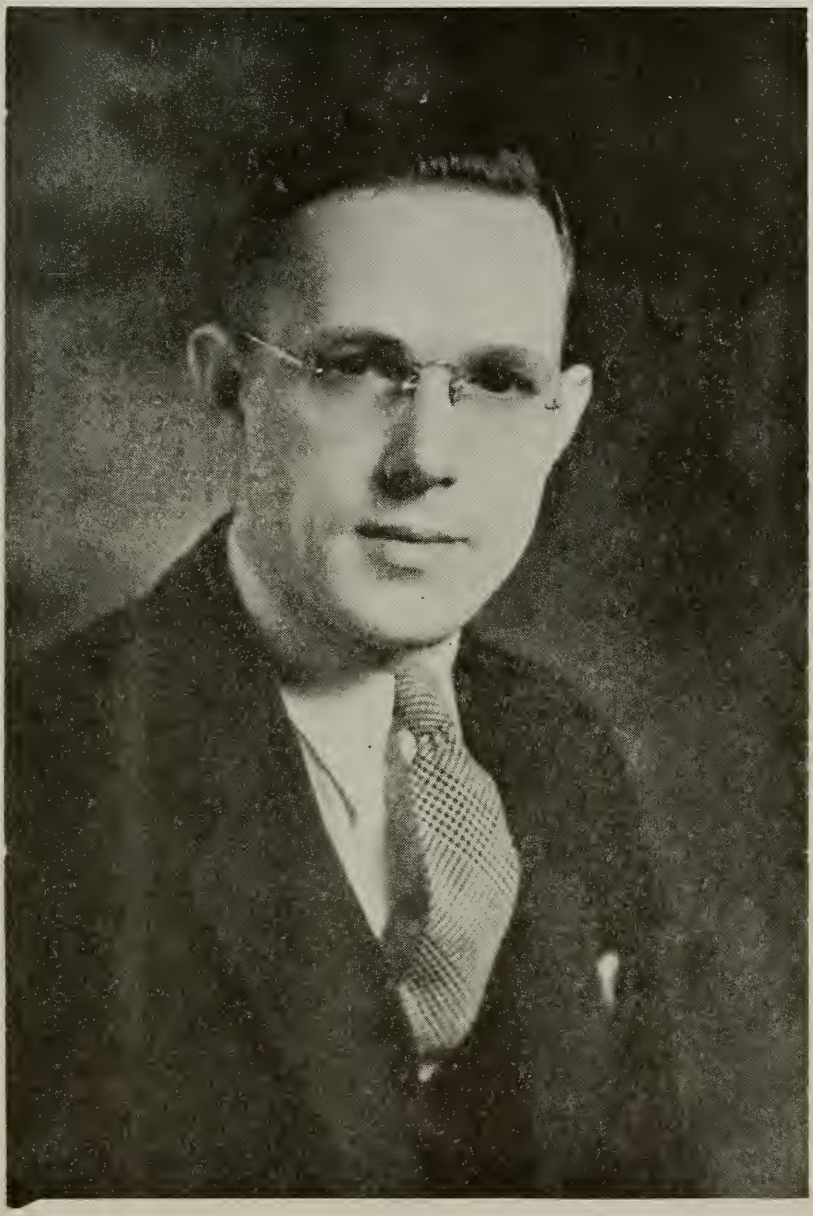


Elwood James "Thacher
Engineer- Section Foreman
Hudson Coal Company
Marvin Colliery, Scranton
Pennsylvania
1939





Elwood James[11] Thacher
Surveyor - Engineer
United States Geological Survey
Topographic Division
1940



Elwood James Thacher[11]
U. S. Geological Survey
Washington, D.C.
1940

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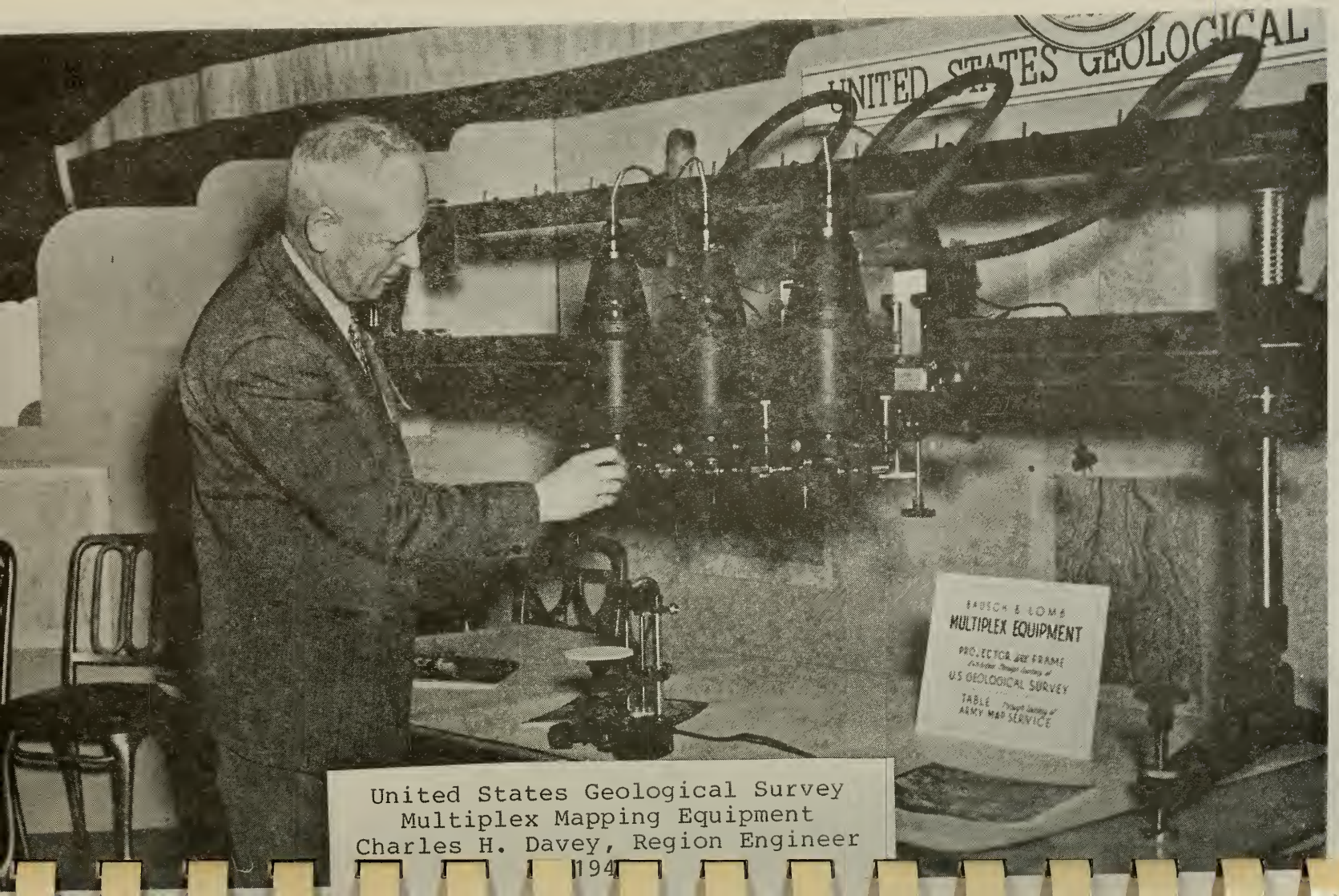
United States Geological Survey
Arlington, Virginia
Photogiametric Mapping Engineers

1. Farrington
2. Hopkins
   Supervisor
3. Webb
   Supervisor
4. Higginson
   Chief
5. Thacher
   Supervisor
6. Addi
7. Boisseau
8. Mathis
9. Priestaf
10. Clarkson
11. Perkins
12. Sherby
13. Payne
14. Coburn
15. Garza
16. Harsha
17. Parrish
18. Beaver
19. O'Neill
20. Craver
21. Matheny
22. Nugent
23. Gill
24. Cornwell
25. Budnick
26. McClane
27. Stewart
28. Mullen
29. Skibik
30. Revercomb
31. Cox
32. Mosby
33. Mellin
34. Riley
35. Dobbins
36. Gleason
37. Morris
38. Withington
39. Halsey
40. Botner
41. Mayer
42. Sanborn
43. Johnson
44. Young
45. Evans
46. Steger
47. Gasdik
48. Edwards
49. Schanda
50. McLaren
51. Moir
52. Borns
53. Tolozko
54. Waqoner
55. Kibbler
56. Robinson
57. Terry
58. McHenry

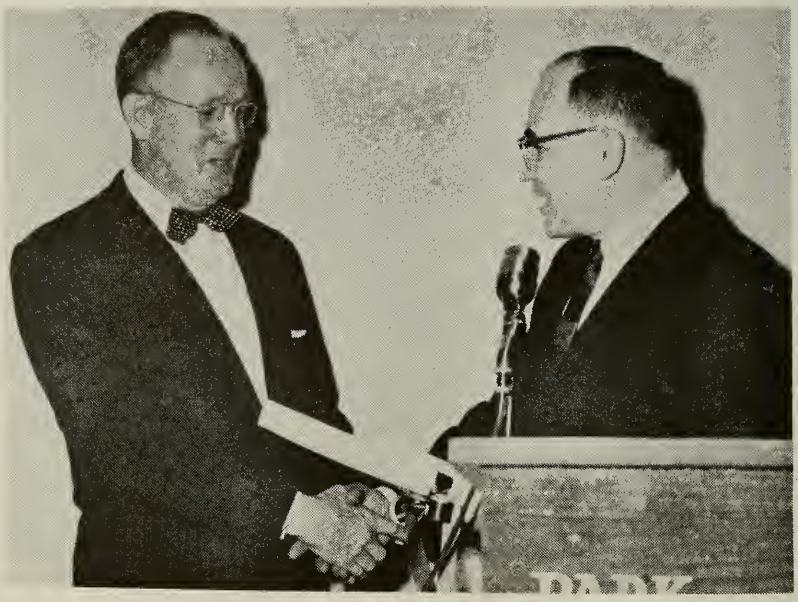
1952



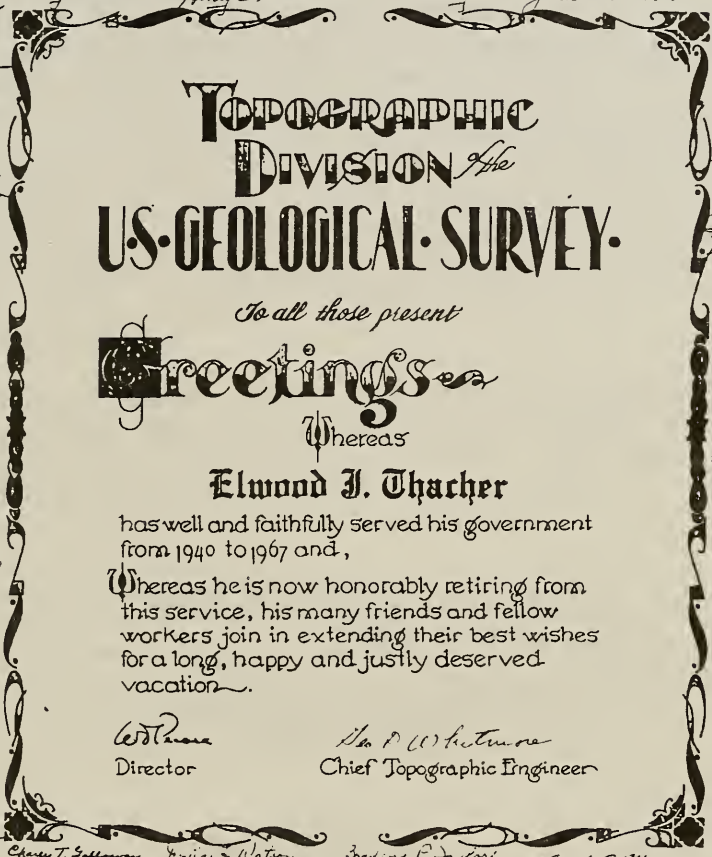
United States Geological Survey
Multiplex Mapping Equipment
Charles H. Davey, Region Engineer

194

Front Row:
Van Camp, left, Bruce, Schalter, Leachman, McClellen, Southard, Corn, Thacher, Isto, Smart, Bowser.
Back Row:
Hopkins, left, Maxon, Wong, Sears, Mann, Northcutt, Dale, Kinney, Berman, Brew, Siebert, Krahmer, Bermel, Letey, Ziegler, Roney, Starr, Chamberlain, Kilmartin, Pinkerton, Zeh.



United States Geological Survey
Presentation of Retirement Scroll
Park Arlington Hotel
Arlington, Virginia
Morris M. Thompson, right, Region Engineer
1967



United States
Department of the Interior
Geological Survey
Topographic Division
Retirement Schroll
1967

Elwood James[11] Thacher
1907 -

Biographical Record
1967 - 1993

Elwood James[11] Thacher retired from the United States Geological Survey in December of 1967. During the few months that followed, he made plans for traveling along the east coast of the United States, from Maine to Florida, via travel-trailer, in search of material for his family genealogy. Throughout these states, he visited many libraries, churches, courthouses, cemeteries, Library of Congress, and several other places where Thacher - Thatcher information could be found concerning his ancestors and their descendants.

On January 29th, 1969, Elwood was honored for Meritorious Service with the Department of the Interior, Geological Survey. He was cited for this honor award by Walter J. Hickel, Secretary of the Interior.

The award was presented to him in the Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., by Lawrence H. Dunn, Assistant Secretary Administration, Hollis, M. Dole, Assistant Secretary Mineral Resources, William T. Pecora, Director, Geological Survey.

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

WASHINGTON

CITATION

FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

ELWOOD J. THACHER

in recognition of superior Government service, all of which was with the Topographic Division of the Geological Survey.

From his entry into Federal service, Mr. Thacher has shown devotion and dedicated support in every respect to the Geological Survey. Early in his career, he showed a keen interest in the development of new and economical techniques in topographic mapping. He contributed many ideas for improving photogrammetric mapping operations. His personal example of applying extra effort to all assigned tasks has been an inspiration to those under his supervision. His inspection of maps produced under contract furthered the program of achieving greater topographic map coverage at a time when the Topographic Division was making urgent effort to expand its capacity. He developed programing methods to coordinate Region mapping programs with Division plans, standards, and the funds allocated. He served as a planning engineer during a period when the Atlantic Region's operations increased by more than 20 percent, and through extra effort and his intimate knowledge of Region personnel kept pace with the Region's needs without increasing the staff of his section. During his career he developed a graphical means of displaying the Region's operational plans in comparison with accomplishments as an aid to making rapid adjustments to planned programs. In recognition of his valuable contributions to the Geological Survey, Mr. Thacher is granted the Meritorious Service Award of the Department of the Interior.

Walter J. Hickel

Secretary of the Interior

United States Department of the Interior

Honor Award

Elwood J. Thacher

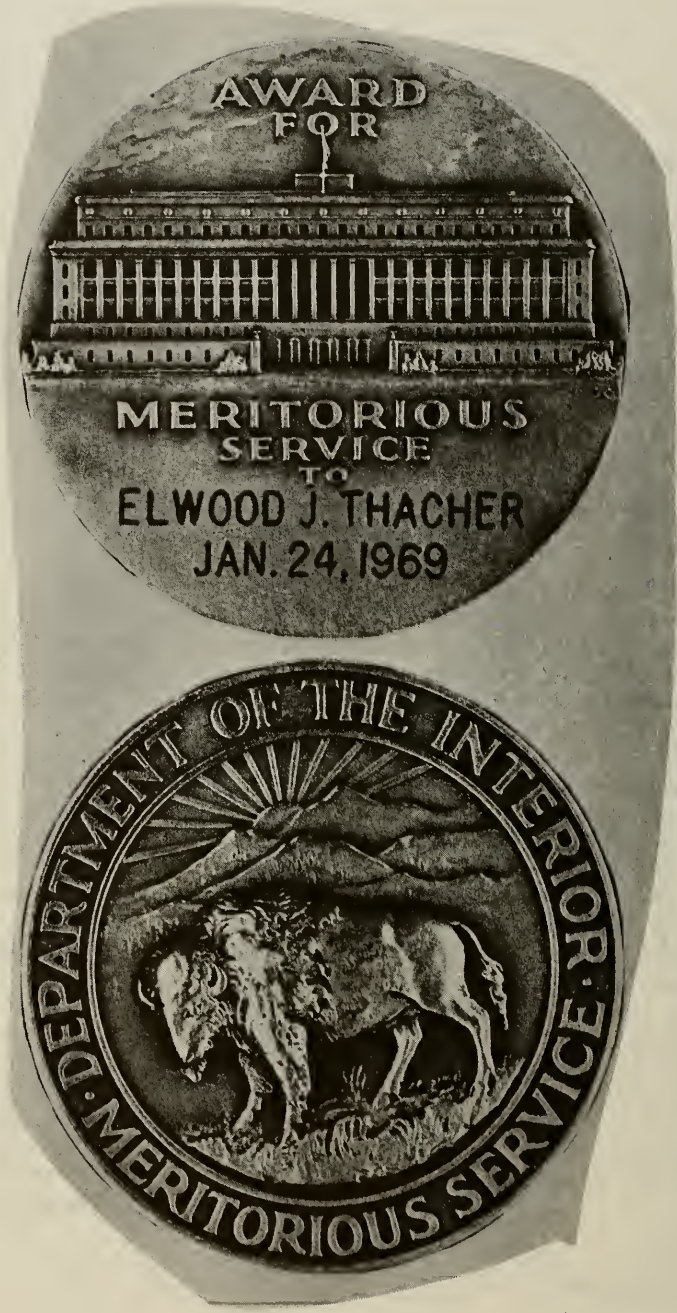
is hereby awarded this certificate of honor for

Meritorious Service

Given under my hand and seal this twenty fourth day of January 1969

Walter J. Hickel

Secretary of the Interior



United States
Department of the Interior
Meritorious Service Award
1969

United States Department of The Interior
Presentation of Meritorious Award
Elwood J. Thacher, left, retired 1967
Lawrence H. Dunn, Ass't. Secretary Administration
Hollis M. Dole, Ass't. Secretary Mineral Resources
William T. Pecora, Director Geological Survey
1969

Later in 1969, Elwood James[11] Thacher was traveling in Winter Haven, Florida. It was here that he decided to settle in retirement, and begin his Thacher - Thatcher genealogy compilation. He bought a home in Orange Manor, a new development, just two miles south of Cypress Gardens. He has lived in Orange Manor as a permanent resident since 1970.

Elwood became one of the officers of the Orange Manor Club, organized in 1970, and served the Club for three years, 1971, 1972, and 1973. In 1974, he became the Club's president. He was re-elected as president in 1975 and 1976.

Serving the Orange Manor Club and its residents during these years slowed down the development of his Thacher - Thatcher genealogy compilations. He did however, compile a book titled "Orange Manor and the Orange Manor Club, 1967 - 1976". A book of information concerning Orange Manor's growing years, and the activities of the Orange Manor Club, including many color pictures. The original manuscript, including color pictures, is on file in the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. - Catalog Number 78-69724. Copy on file Harford Township Historical Society Museum Harford, Pennsylvania.

Elwood retired from the Orange Manor Club as president in 1976. During the years 1970 to 1976, he had done practically nothing to further his Thacher - Thatcher compilations and the arrangement of his genealogy materials and information for publication.

In 1978, Elwood compiled and published a booklet titled "Millham Reunion 1972". A record of Millham ancestors and descendants. Arline Millham Thacher, wife of Elwood, died in 1974. Copy on file Harford Township Historical Society museum, Pennsylvania.

It was three years later, in 1979, when Elwood published his first set of six books concerning the Thacher - Thatcher family, titled, "Thomas[3] Thacher 1620 - 1678", Ancestors and Descendants. Thomas[3] is the american ancestor of all Boston Branch Thacher - Thatcher families in the United States - Library of Congress, Catalog Number 79-63849.

Rev. Thomas[3] Thacher is a direct descendant of Rev. Peter[1] Thacher 1545 - 1624. Queen Camel, Somerset, England. Copies of Thomas[3] Thacher books on file, Harford Township Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania and selected libraries in all states of the Continental United States.

Elwood Thacher was vacationing in Massachusetts in 1971, and visited Thacher Island, a small island off the coast of Cape Ann, Rockport. In the interest of all Thacher families and friends, he compiled and published a small booklet concerning Thacher Island in 1979, and later in 1985 a booklet on Thacher Island's 350th anniversary, Library of Congress Catalog Number 79-63857, copy on file Harford Township Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania, and selected libraries in all states of the Continental United States.

In 1980, Elwood distributed framed 9 x 12 inch copies of the Thacher Coat-of-Arms, in color, to Thacher families in appreciation of their helpful Thacher family information. As time passed, many other Thacher families responded with helpful genealogy information. They also received a color copy of the Thacher Coat-of-Arms. Copy on display Harford Township Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania.

In 1981, Elwood compiled and published a book titled "Memories" Peter E. Johnson 1855 - 1926, and the descendants of Emil Anton Carlson 1881 - 1950 - Library of Congress, Catalog Number 81-51363. Copy on file Harford Township Historical Society, Pennsylvania.

Fritzene Carlson Thacher is of Swedish descent. Elwood and Fritzene were married in 1987. Elwood's wife Arline Millham Thacher died in 1974. Fritzene and Elwood honeymooned in England, Sweden, and Denmark.

In England, they visited London and Queen Camel, Somerset County, where Elwood's most remote ancestor Rev. Peter[1] Thacher 1545 - 1624, was Vicar of St. Barnabas' Church for fifty years, from 1574 to 1624. Thomas[3] Thacher 1620 - 1678, volume one. Copy on file Harford Township Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania. Library of Congress Catalog Number 79-63849.

In Sweden, They Visited Stockholm, Malmo, Broby, and Nassjo. Fritzene Carlson Thacher's ancestors and their descendants lived in these areas in the 1850's.

In Denmark, they visited Copenhagen where Fritzene's grandmother Bengta Anderson Johnson resided in 1852, before coming to America in 1880. The Johnsons settled in Monson, Maine, U.S.A., and lived there all of their life. They are buried there.

In 1982, Elwood published a book titled "Thomas Anthony Thacher 1815 - 1866. A Biographical Historical Record of Thomas Anthony's Yale College Class of 1835. Thomas is a member of the Boston Branch Thacher - Thatcher family.

This book of information accounts for all of the members of Thomas Anthony's class, from admission in 1831 to 1881, the fifty years following graduation. Library of Congress Catalog Number 82-80096. Copy on file Harford Township Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania, and selected libraries in all states of the Continental United States.

In 1983, Elwood compiled and published a Genealogy titled "Raymond Avery 1898 - 1980 his ancestors and descendants 1590 - 1960". Library of Congress Catalog Number 83-90978.

Raymond Avery is Elwood Thacher's uncle by marriage. Raymond Avery married Hazel Evelyn[10] Thacher, 1892 - 1973, Carbondale, Pennsylvania. Copy on file Harford Township Historical Society, Pennsylvania, and selected libraries in all states of the Continental United States.

In 1984 and 1985, Elwood compiled and published a Genealogy "Anthony[2] Thacher 1588 - 1667,", three volumes. Library of Congress, Catalog Number 85-52329. Copy on file Harford Historical Society Museum Pennsylvania, and selected libraries in all states of the Continental United States.

Anthony[2] Thacher was born in Queen Camel, England. He came to America in 1635. Thacher Island in Massachusetts carries his name. It was this island that preserved ad saved his life, and that of his wife's, after a tragic shipwreck in 1635. Library of Congress, Catalog Number 79-63857. Copy on file Harford Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania, and selected libraries in all states of the Continental United States.

Also in 1985, Elwood published a commemorative booklet titled "Thacher Island off Cape Ann, Rockport, Massachusetts, 350th Anniversary 1635 - 1985". This booklet in remembrance of Anthony[2] Thacher 1588 - 1667, and his wife Elizabeth Jones Thacher, ship-wrecked on the stormy seas of the Atlantic Ocean on August 15th, 1635. Library of

Congress, catalog number 79-63857. Copy on file Harford Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania, and selected libraries in all states of the Continental United States.

This small island was granted to Anthony[2] Thacher by an Act of The Massachusetts Colonial Court, at Boston, first month, ninth day, 1636 - 37.

Copies of this commemorative booklet were distributed to all who attended the 350th Anniversary event, and meeting, held in the First Universalist Society Church in Rockport, on August 14, 1985. A program of events was also held on Thacher Island on August 15th, 1985.

In 1986 and 1987, Elwood compiled and published a book titled "Harford Thacher's". Library of Congress Catalog Number 87-50141. This book is dedicated to all Thacher's and their descendants, and in particular to the memory of Moses[7] Thacher 1766 - 1845, and Samuel[7] Thacher 1768 - 1833, who took part in the origin and settlement of Harford Township, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania in 1790. Copy on file Harford Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania, and selected libraries in all states of the Continental United States.

Moses[7] and Samuel[7] are a part of the Boston Branch of the Thacher - Thatcher family, and two of the "Nine Partners Pact" developed in Attleborough, Massachusetts in 1790.

PROGENITORS OF

MOSES[7] THACHER 1766 - 1845
b-Attleborough, Mass., d-Lynn, Ohio

SAMUEL[7] THACHER 1768 - 1833
b-Attleborough, Mass., d-Harford, PA

PETER[6] THACHER 1716 - 1785
b-Middleboro, Mass., d-Attleborough, Mass.

PETER[5] THACHER 1688 - 1744
b-Milton, Mass., d-Middleboro, Mass.

PETER[4] THACHER 1651 - 1727
b-Salem, Mass., d-Milton, Mass.

THOMAS[3] THACHER 1620 - 1678
b-Milton Clevedon, England, d-Boston, Mass.

PETER[2] THACHER 1587 - 1640
b-Queen Camel, England, d-Salisbury, England

PETER[1] THACHER 1545 - 1624
b-Queen Camel?, England, d-Queen Camel, England

Rev. Peter[1] Thacher lived in Queen Camel and was Vicar of St. Barnabas' Church from 1574 to 1624. He died in 1624.

In July of 1987, Elwood and Fritzene Thacher visited England, and Queen Camel's St. Barnabas' Church in Somerset County. During their visit to Queen Camel, they walked on the church's 600 year old restored cobblestone paths, that led to St. Barnabas' Church.

These cobblestone church paths were restored through a unique St. Barnabas' Church fund raiser project. Gift donations were made at a rate of L2 (two pounds, English currency) per cobblestone. The project took months to complete. It was finished in 1985. Gordon Moore, the Parrish Clerk, guided the restoration work.

Elwood James[11] Thacher, a direct descendant of Rev. Peter[1] Thacher, eleven generations later, was privileged to be a part of this cobblestone project, by contributing to the project in the names of his English Thacher ancestors of Queen Camel, and himself. Elwood received citation certificates from St. Barnabas Church in remembrance of the cobblestone project. Copies on file Harford Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania,

St. Barnabas' Ancient Church Path
Restored
Queen Camel, England
1986

St. Barnabas' Church, England

Queen Camel ~ Somerset

Ancient Path Restoration Appeal

This Certificate is issued as proof of purchase

- in the Year of our Lord 1985 -

of one cobble stone re-instated in Church Path

In memory of

Benefactor: Revd. Peter Thacher 1545-1624

Vicar of Queen Camel, England 1574-1624

Cobble Stone Nos: 1201-1300

St. Barnabas' Church, England

Queen Camel ~ Somerset

Ancient Path Restoration Appeal

This Certificate is issued as proof of purchase

- in the Year of our Lord 1985 -

of one cobble stone re-instated in Church Path

In memory of

Benefactor: Anthony & Thacher 1588-1667

Cobble Stone Nos: 1301-1400

St. Barnabas' Church, England

Queen Camel ~ Somerset

Ancient Path Restoration Appeal

This Certificate is issued as proof of purchase

- in the Year of our Lord 1985 -

of one cobble stone re-instated in Church Path

In memory of

Benefactor: Revd. Thomas Thacher 1620-1678

Cobble Stone Nos: 1401-1500

St. Barnabas' Church, England

Queen Camel ~ Somerset

Ancient Path Restoration Appeal

This Certificate is issued as proof of purchase

~ in the Year of our Lord 1985 ~

of one cobble stone re-instated in Church Path

Benefactor: Elwood J. "Thacher"

to commemorate 350th anniversary of Thacher Island

Cobble Stone Nos: 1501-1550

In 1988 and 1989, Elwood Thacher compiled and published a booklet titled "Harford Townships' Nine Partners", Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, Two Hundredth Anniversary 1790 - 1990.

This commemorative booklet was compiled in thoughtful remembrance of Harford Township's Nine Partners. These partners and their families were the pioneers and early settlers of Harford 200 years ago (1790-1990). This souvenir booklet is dedicated to the Harford Township Historic Society. A society that has worked hard through the years to preserve and maintain the memory of all those early pioneers from Attleborough, Massachusetts.

From palaced bourne, from hillside hearth,
We have journeyed to this shrine,
For the years have made us kindred
To that partnership of nine
Who "had sought the sweet seclusion"
Of these hills and placid leas,
And the quiet independence
Of a home among the trees.

Vowed to their deliverance
From the tyrannies they bore;
Sworn to their inheritance
Of an old and puritanic lore;
These men were like foundation rock,
Upholding every joist and beam,
Girding every arch and block,
Of our social structure scheme.

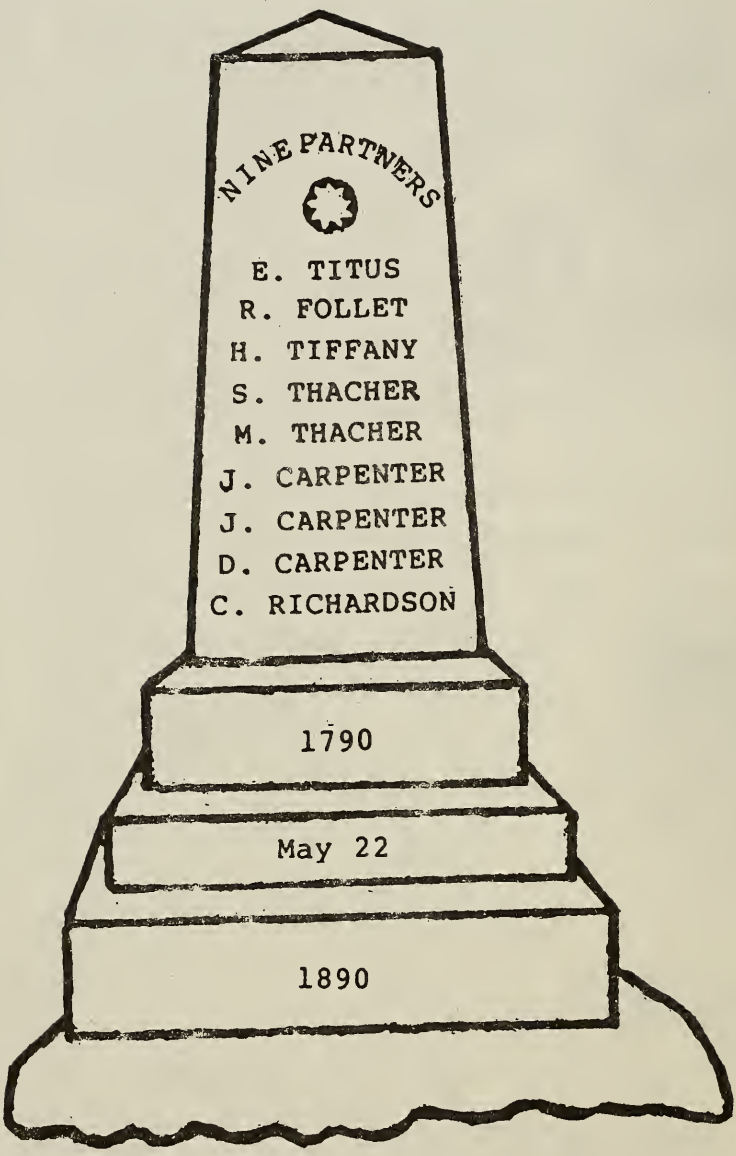
We honor their descendants
Who have lit those altar fires,
Such as were the inspiration
Of their patriotic sires;
And if you ask more ample token
Of their service unbroken,
These very hills will answer,
And these fields will testify;
The volumes and the records
And the generations will reply;
And the crosses for our losses,
In the valley where they bled
Speak in silent tribute
To our hereos fallen dead.

The age-old kingdoms of the world
Are stretched upon a harder rock
Than were the martyrs in the forces
Which turned The Inquisition back.
We stand aloof, and loathe the scene
Of massacre and human gore -
More fould than any fabled specter
Of a lost and fallen sector,
Writhing on the Stygian shore.

We look upon a world distraught
With all the agonies of hell;
We view the bloody fields of death
On which the stricken millions fell,
Through wisdom calls for guarded shores,
While menace looms in foreign wars,
Let not the wish, the dream, displace
Our stubborn task - our Lord's mandate
To fill the human heart with grace,
To banish human greed and hate.

James H. Fuller
Scranton Pennsylvania,
July 3, 1940

Lake Tingley
Leslie
Cemetery
Creek
HARFORD
Tyler Lake
Cem
Creek
H A R F O R D
Polk Pond
Sen. Ed. Jones Highway
Partners
Peck Cem
BM 1092
I-81
BM 1072
BM 1025
Nine Partners Road
Tiffany Home
Nine Partners Spring and Monument
Quarry
Quarries
1790
1990
HARFORD TOWNSHIP
Susquehanna County
PENNSYLVANIA
61



NINE PARTNERS MONUMENT
Erected At The Spring
1890

200th Anniversary
1790 - 1990

Harford Township

Susquehanna County

Pennsylvania

Remarks

July 22, 1990

In Memory of

Moses[7] and Samuel[7] Thacher

Two of the

"Nine Partners"

Good Afternoon

Ladies and Gentlemen, Pioneer Relatives and Friends.

It has been a real pleasure for me to have attended this 200th Anniversary of Harford Township, and to recall to memory, Harford's "Nine Partners" from Attleboro, Massachusetts, who in 1790 took major parts in the Origin and Settlement of Harford Township, in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, 200 years ago.

Moses and Samuel Thacher, two of the "Nine Partners", are a part of the seventh generation of our Boston Branch of the Thacher family, and I'm pleased to say that I am a part of the 11th generation of that same Branch of the Thacher family.

When I speak of our generations, I am speaking of the generations following the Rev. Peter Thacher, of Queen Camel, England, our most remote ancestor who was born in 1545.

Our American ancestor is Thomas Thacher, of the 3rd generation. He was born in Milton Clevedon, England, in 1620.

Thomas Thacher came to America in 1635, on the ship "James" from Southhampton, England.

I would like to note that there are many given names of "James" in our Branch of the family, carried down through the years since 1635.

The same is noted for the given name of "Peter". The name Peter has been in our family since long before 1500.

I might note here also that the name Thacher is often spelled with the middle "T". For seven generations following Peter Thacher of Queen Camel, England, in 1545, the Thacher name was spelled without the middle "T". However, since the seventh generation, the name is often used with the middle "T" in it. Both ways of spelling the Thacher name is used in our Thacher families.

The Boston Branch of our family, for the most part, spell the name <u>without</u> the middle "T".

Thomas Thacher, Moses and Samuel Thacher's great-grandfather, is the American Ancestor of all Boston Branch Thacher's, in the United States.

Thomas Thacher was both a Minister and a physician, in Boston, Massachusetts. He published the first medical book on smallpox in the United States, in 1677.

Thomas Thacher was installed as the first minister of the Old South Church in Boston, on February 16, 1670. The Old South Church in known as the "Old South Meeting House".

The "Old South Meeting House" is a Museum now, and has been since 1876. It's located on the corner of Washington and Milk Streets, right in the heart of Boston.

Some of you folks may recall reading about the "Old South Meeting House".

It was here in 1773, that thousands of citizens resolved against British Tea, and many disguised as indian savages, led a march to the Boston Harbor and destroyed all the tea on the Harbor ships, by throwing it all overboard.

This event, as you remember, was historically known as the "Boston Tea Party".

The "Old South Meeting House", in those pre-revolutionary days, was also known as "The Sanctuary of Freedom".

Moses and Samuel Thacher's most remote ancestor, Rev. Peter Thacher, was born in Queen Camel, England, in 1545, over 200 years earlier.

This Rev. Peter Thacher was the Vicar of St. Barnabas' Church in Queen Camel, for 50 years.

Queen Camel, I might note, is located in the south-western part of England.

Rev. Peter Thacher died in 1624, while he was still the Vicar of St. Barnabas' Church.

Moses Thacher was born in Attleboro, Massachusetts, in 1766. His brother Samuel, was born in Attleboro, two years later.

Both Moses and Samuel Thacher, 2 of the 9 Partners, were sons of Rev. Peter Thacher of Attleboro, Massachusetts.

This Rev. Peter Thacher was of the 6th generation, of the Boston Branch Thachers.

He was born in Middleborough, Massachusetts, in 1716. He became an ordained minister in 1748. He also became the first minister of the Second Church of Attleboro. Rev. Peter Thacher preached at the Second Church for 36 years.

According to our Boston Branch Thacher tradition, Rev. Peter was the 14th oldest son in succession, in the work of a minister.

Rev. Peter of Attleboro, was a descendant of Rev. Peter Thacher of Queen Camel, England.

Rev. Peter of Attleboro, was married to Bethiah Carpenter of Attleboro.

Three members of the Carpenter family John, Daniel, and Josiah, were also a part of the "Nine Partners" Pact, in the early settlement of Harford Township in 1790, 200 years ago.

It was John, Daniel, and Josiah Carpenter, along With Moses and Samuel Thacher, that made up the quiet portion of the "Nine Partners" adventures.

All of the "Nine Partners" lived honorable lives, and left a name to be remembered, until the last Chapter of Harford History shall be written.

I might add, that 5 of these "Nine Partners" became pillars of the Church of God in Harford.

Moses Thacher was a farmer, and a church deacon. He resided in Harford for 26 years. He married Sarah Read, and from this union 3 children were born, Washington Thacher in 1794, Sarah Atherton Thacher in 1797, and Aza Read Thacher in 1811.

Sarah Read Thacher, Moses Thacher's wife, died in 1828, and Moses Thacher later married Mary Tiffany Read.

Samuel Thacher was also a farmer. He married Betsey Carpenter. From this union, Samuel and Betsey Carpenter Thacher had 9 children. All of their children were born in Harford, except one, Daniel, who was probably born in Attleboro, Massachusetts, in 1793, a year before they came to Harford's "Nine Partners" Settlement.

Samuel and Betsey Thacher has a family of 5 sons, 4 daughters, and many grand-children and descendants followed.

Samuel Thacher and his wife Betsey sleep alone in Harford's Old Cemetery. All of their children, except one, made their graves toward the setting sun in the west.

It's just so very hard for us to vision the great hardships through which these "Nine Partners" and their families experienced, when they first came into Susquehanna County, in 1794.

Caleb Richardson noted in his sketch of the "Nine Partners" settlement, in 1837, that they had to clear so many trees, in order to get from cabin to cabin.

It was even a greater job for them clearing the trees for their so-called roads, in order for their carts and sleighs to move about.

Some streams had to be forded, and they had to do some grading, but only where it was absolutely necessary.

These "Nine Partners" and their families labored many hours, everyday, for days at a time, in order to live and survive in their new land of rocky, stony, and hilly wilderness.

Caleb Richardson also noted, in 1837, that the "Nine Partners" first big trail cutting job followed closely to the center line of their tract of land.

From here, they cut paths and roads back and forth, in a sort of Northwest-Southeast direction.

One of their lines extended to a place called "Van Winkles", probably near, or at, the Old Mill Site in Gibson.

Another of their trails extended from "Blanding", straight down the hill to the "Van Buskirk" farm, later known as the Brainard's place.

From the Brainard's place, they made another trail to the village, and still another trail back to the Osborn house north of the swamp, near the Wilmath's place. Later on, they continued this trail on to the "Capron" place, at the foot of the Jeffer's hill.

From here, they opened another trail to Martins Creek, probably at, or near, the Oakley's place.

This trail blazing went on and on, for days and days at a time, until they were able to be a community with each other.

Wallace Lord Thacher wrote about Harford's first 100 years, from 1790 to 1890. Wallace Thacher was a part of the 10th generation of our Boston Branch Thacher family. He was born in New Milford, Pennsylvania, in 1841. He died in Harford in 1916. His American ancestor was also Thomas Thacher, of Boston, Massachusetts.

Wallace Lord Thacher's most remote ancestor was also the Rev. Peter Thacher of Queen Camel, England, who was born in 1545, almost 300 years earlier.

Wallace Lord Thacher's father was Russel Read Thacher. Russel Thacher was born in Harford in 1815. He died in Binghamton, New York, in 1904.

Wallace Lord Thacher was a school teacher, a journalist, a farmer, and an author. His wife was Mary Ella Van Buskirk. They had 3 children, Mary Catherine born in 1869. Mary died in 1906, at the early age of 37. Their two other children, Authur Silkman, and Jessee Oswald, died young.

In remembrance of the "Nine Partners", and Harford's 200th Anniversary, be sure to take home a 200th Anniversary souvenir, a "Nine Partners" Booklet, and a "Nine Partners" Medal, commemorating this very special Harford celebration of 1990.

Help keep the memory of those nine courageous men, and their families alive. Pioneers who worked so very hard to settle Harford 200 years ago.

I'm sure all Harford families will want to have a set of these 200th Anniversary souvenirs, as a keepsake, of this very special year, 1990.

I'm also sure that all of Harford's "Nine Partners" descendants, relatives, and friends, will want a keepsake souvenir set too. Let's all remember Harford's 200th Anniversary and the "Nine Partners" of 200 years ago.

And Lastly, don't forget, when you take home a 200th Anniversary souvenir keepsake set, you are helping the Harford Historic Society to further their continuing work programs of maintaining Harford's Historic Days, places, and people, now, and in the future.

To-Day is Sunday July 22, 1990.

The very last day of Harford's 200th Anniversary Celebration.

Its been a pleasure to visit with you during this very special occasion.

Thank you for listening and have a good anniversary year.

I'm "Woody" Thacher from Winter Haven, Florida.

Harford Township, a "Nine Partners" settlement until 1807, was carved out of a Rocky, Stony, and Hilly wilderness of Susquehanna County, in northeastern Pennsylvania. Copy on file Harford Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania, and selected Libraries in all States of the Continental United States.

On July 15th through 22nd, 1990, Harford Township celebrated their 200th anniversary with a parade through Harford. Programs in remembrance of these pioneers were held at the Harford Fair Grounds, and the Harford Congregational Church.

Elwood also designed and had made, a colorful Medallion to commemorate Harford's 200th anniversary event 1790-1990. Copy on file Harford Township Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania.

On the front side of the Medallion, a colorful design logo of the "Nine Partners" in gold color. A picture of the original cabin and woodland is shown in brown and green color within the "Nine Partners" logo symbol. Also shown within the symbol are the names of the Nine Partners. Surrounding the edge of the Medallion, top, the words "Two Hundredth Anniversary". On the bottom edge "Harford Township, Pennsylvania, 1790-1990". The background is white and the edge ring is shown in red. All lettering is shown in gold color.

On the backside of the Medallion, a colorful picture of the American Flag. In front of the flag, a picture of the "Nine Partners" monument. The names of the "Nine Partners" are shown in gold color within the monument symbol. Surrounding the flag and monument,

the words "Two Hundredth Anniversary 1790-1990, top. On the bottom, "Harford Township, Pennsylvania". The background is white and the edge ring is red. All lettering is gold color.

Front Side

Back Side

In 1991, Elwood and his son Thomas Wayne Thacher traveled to England via British Airways to attend the 700th Anniversary services of St. Barnabas Church, 1291-1991, in Queen Camel, Somerset County, England.

The services were held in the St. Barnabas Church on Sunday, June 9th, 1991. Included in the 700th Anniversary service was the dedication and consecration of memorial chapel. A chapel consecrated in memory of incumbent Rev. Peter[1] Thacher, who served the church as Vicar from 1574 to 1624. Bishop David Cartwright performed the 700th Anniversary Church Service, and the dedication consecration service of the Rev. Peter[1] Thacher Memorial Chapel. A copy of the St. Barnabas' Church 700th Anniversary Program on file Harford Township Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania.

Following the 700th Anniversary Services, a delightful luncheon was served in Memorial Hall. Rev. Lyn Morris, pastor of St. Barnabas' Church, greeted all the folks and visitors, and thanked the church committees for such a delightful luncheon.

Rev. Morris recalled the church's long history of service to Queen Camel's residents. Rev. Morris then presented a beautifully inscribed cut glass bowl and paper weight to Elwood James[11] Thacher of Winter Haven, Florida, U.S.A., for his part in developing the church's, Rev. Peter[1] Thacher Memorial Chapel. Rev. Peter[1] served the church and Queen Camel for fifty years, 1574 to 1624.

When Elwood James[11] Thacher returned to the United States, and his home in Winter Haven, Florida, in August of 1991, he assembled color pictures, and newspaper items, of this memorial event in the St. Barnabas' Church's booklet titled "St. Barnabas' Church, Queen Camel, England, 700th Anniversary, 1291-1991". Copy on file Harford Township Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania.

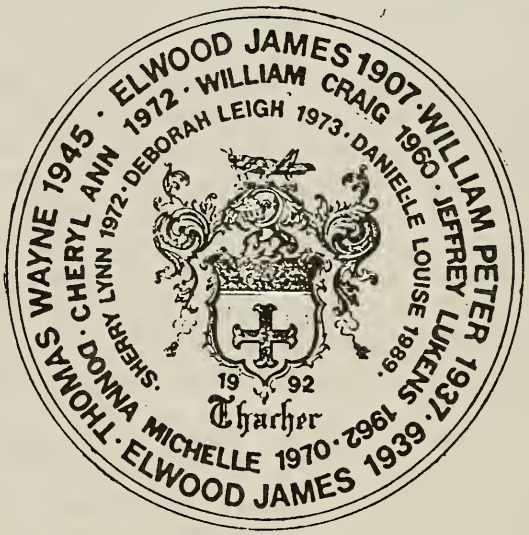
Elwood also designed and had made a special colorful "Commemorative Medallion" documenting the church's memorial event. Complimentary medallions, and church program booklets with color pictures, were sent to Queen Camel, England, for distribution to Rev. Lyn Morris and church officers. A copy of each of these items on display, Harford Township Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania. See Page 77 and 93 • 94

In the United States, Medallions and church program booklets were distributed to family members, Attleboro Congregational Church Museum, Library of Congress, and the DAR Library in Washington, D.C., and Harford Township Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania.

In 1992, Elwood designed a colorful family Medallion. Work is in progress, and the Medallions should be finished in time for distribution at the Thacher family reunion in July 1993.

The Medallion, on the front side, has a colorful Thacher Coat-of-Arms in the center. Surrounding the COA are the names of Elwood's children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. The background is white. On the reverse side, a colorful picture of St. Barnabas' Church, in the center. Surrounding

the church picture, the name "Rev. Peter[1] Thacher 1545-1624".* Rev. Peter[1] is the most remote Thacher ancestor of the Boston and Yarmouth Branches of Thacher - Thatcher families, in the United States.



*Copy on display Harford Township Historical Society Museum, Pennsylvania.

St. Barnabas Church, Queen Camel

England

The first record we have of CAMEL is that the village was given by Godwin, Earl of the West Saxons, to his wife Gytha (Ghida according to Domesday) as a dowry in 1019. She was the mother of King Harold and it has been claimed that she was at Camel when she received news of his death at Hastings in 1066. The name CAMEL does not, as some may suppose, derive from Arthur's Camelot - the hill-fort now known as Cadbury Camp some three miles away. The Oxford Dictionary of Place-names says that in the cartularies of Muchelney Abbey the village is called CANTMAEL (Cant = ridge; Mael = bare) - obviously referring to the ridge now known as Camel Hill. The Oxford English Dictionary lists CAM as, among other things, a ridge. So, CANT or CAM, the name certainly comes from the ridge overlooking the village.

William the Conqueror granted the village to his queen, Matilda, but it is probable that the prefix QUEEN was not used until after 1299 when Edward I granted the manor and village to his second wife, Margaret. Until then it was known as EAST CAMEL. Old documents refer to it as CAMELL REIGNE and CAMELL QUEENS as well as EAST CAMEL during that period. It belonged to subsequent queens until 1558 when Queen Mary exchanged it for Little Weldon in Northants with her chancellor, Sir Walter Mildmay. The Mildmay family held the village and the Hazlegrove estate until the beginning of the 20th century when part of the estate was sold - the rest finally leaving the family in 1929. Subsequently the Strangways estate sold Hazlegrove House and 20 acres to Bruton Junior School in 1952 for £4000. In the ringing chamber of the tower are two hatchments of the Mildmays. The family motto "Alla ta hara" is thought to have been adopted in the Third Crusade and is corrupt Arabic translated "God has guarded". (cp. History of Hazlegrove House by R. P. A. Lankester.)

The first mention of a church is in Rymer's Foedera (Vol ii p. 855) where it was noted that, in 1291, the church was valued at 20 marks (about £15) whilst the manor and park (not Hazlegrove) to the east of the church, consisting of 72 acres, 2 roods, 27 perches, was valued at £60. This was the forerunner of the present church and consisted of a nave and two aisles (certainly not the present ones) probably separated by arcades. This early church had no tower or chancel. The alcove in the south aisle wall may well have been recovered from the original church during the extensive rebuilding during the 14th and 15th centuries. As is the case with most Somerset churches the stonework is in blue lias with the carved work in hamstone. Its structural history is interesting.

The tower (c. 1380) was built up against the earlier nave of which all that remains is the two arcades built about 1350 or even earlier. On the completion of the tower the nave roof was lifted to its present height and the north and south aisles constructed, in that order, partly from materials from the earlier aisles. During this period the chancel was added. In more recent times the south porch was added (between 1835 and 1855) and the vestry, which also contains the organ case, in 1887 as part of the Golden Jubilee restoration.

A copy of the faculty for the restoration is hung in the vestry. Several 18th century features were removed including a gallery at the west end which housed the choir and organ. An old resident, Ben Brooks, who died in 1960 aged 97 told a former Rector that he remembered his sister going up into the choir gallery and hearing the clerk shout out the responses and amens from his desk half way down the nave on the north side. (From the Church Warden's Accounts 1716. Pd. John Toop for ye gallery £15.05.04.)

An idea of the former interior and exterior can be obtained from photographs now hung in the vestry and copies of J. Buckler's drawings of c. 1840. Behind the altar there were two slabs of Purbeck marble on which were incised the ten commandments. Part of these now form the sill of the window in the ringing chamber. There were pews with doors. According to the faculty "the Mildmay pew is to be removed and stored at the Vicarage for safety". Parts of it now form the choir vestry in the north aisle – although the faculty provided for a choir vestry to be built against the north wall of the tower. In August 1886 a fete at Hazlegrove raised £194 towards the restoration and included a firework display put on by Mr Brock from Crystal Palace.

Now for a detailed tour of the church.

The TOWER is unique in Somerset, being the only one built in five stages. It is 96 feet high and supported by set-back buttresses. The present weather-cock was added in the second half of the 19th century. The clock, made by W. Potts & Sons of Leeds, was erected as a memorial of the 1887 Jubilee. The statue of St Barnabas in the niche on the west face of the tower was created in fibre glass by Charles Hopkins in 1971. The girdle and cross are emblems of poverty, the book marked logos or word denotes his work as an evangelist. The sharp flying stones, from which he turns his face, signify his martyrdom and the hay-rake is his symbol because his feast day, June 11th, is in the hay-making season. Before the calendar was reformed June 11th was mid-summer day. Hence the jingle:

Barnaby bright, Barnaby bright
The longest day, the shortest night.

There are 140 steps to the top of the tower and the bells are the heaviest peal of six in the world. They were rehung in 1908 by Taylor's of Loughborough, and we have a photograph of the occasion in the ringing chamber. They had the distinction of being broadcast on Easter Dary 1952. Their details are worthy of note:

Bell	1	Ave Michael Ora pro nobis (pray for us). No date but believed to be a pre-Reformation bell	Weight 8 cwt
	2	Wm. Bilbie, Chewstok: fecit 1778. John Francis and Thomas Watts C.W. My Trebble voice makes hearts rejoice.	10 cwt
	3	Thomas Day and William Knight C.W. Ann. Dom. 1706. T.P. (Thomas Pennington)	15 cwt
	4	C.R. Drawe near to God. Anno Domini 1604. R.P. (Roger Purdue)	20 cwt
	5	John Taylor, Loughborough 1862	26 cwt
	6	Heare I am as you may see, Wm. Perry and his wyff gave me To this church free To be maintained for ever 1633 R.P. (Note 'C'. Diam. 59")	36 cwt

There is also a small bell affectionately known as the 'ting-tang' which is inscribed:

Hark when Bess Perry call,
Come to church and serve God all.

This bell contains a high percentage of silver, hence its pure and mellow tone. Bess Perry is reputed to have 'canvassed' the parishioners for silver coins which were then added to the bell metal mix.

Will Perry was the Somerset agent of Sir Humphry Mildmay, Lord of the manor from 1616. Elizabeth (Bess) was his wife. A survey of the manor in about 1620 lists William Pirrie, aged 54 and his wife, Elizabeth, aged 50. He died in August 1640 and she in June 1645.

On St Barnabas eve (10th June) 1639 a disastrous fire, probably started by gypsies, destroyed the greater part of the village. Sir Humphry Mildmay's diary has an entry dated 19th June 1639, "Letter from Will Perry telling of the fire in Queen Camel whereby 70 houses were destroyed". In 1640 the people of Pershute in Wiltshire gave iis. vid. to the inhabitants of Queen Camel whose loss by fire was £5000 (cp. Notes and Queries for Wilts. and Dorset).

The NAVE: Above the high arch dividing the tower and the nave can be seen the flanking stones of the former pitched roof. Beneath is a very fine rolled arch at the base of which are two protrusions of stone which may have been corbels that supported the earlier roof. Cut into these are two grooves which housed the supports for the former choir gallery and organ. The present roof is of a typical Somerset pattern with embattled, oak tie beams, king posts and tracery. The braces rest on decorated stone corbels. The east end of the roof is coffered. This panelled section is a characteristic that is a feature of many Somerset churches and was constructed as a canopy over the rood and screen.

When the roof was raised to its present height (c. 1400) four clerestory windows were inserted on each side, greatly increasing the amount of light. In the two nave arcades we have, perhaps, the earliest evidence of stonework in the building (with the possible exception of the north aisle corbels and the south aisle alcove) as these can probably be dated to about 1350 (Pevsner says 'not later than 1360'). Three of the pillar capitals are carved. The western bay of each of the nave arcades is smaller and lower than the others. As the arcades were completed first it seems probable that when the tower was built these west bays were taken down and reassembled on a smaller scale – because some of the available space was now taken up by the east-facing buttresses of the tower. Outside, on the south parapet of the nave, is the original scratch dial dating from the early 15th century. It was restored in the 1960's by His Honour Judge A. H. Armstrong.

The AISLES are not the original ones but were added after the tower was built. This can be seen by the straight joints along the lines of the tower buttresses adjoining both north and south aisles. It is highly probable that the north aisle was constructed after the nave roof was lifted and that the south aisle followed shortly afterwards. At that time the windows from the original aisles were used. These did not give sufficient light for the enlarged church and so, a long time afterwards, they were removed and replaced by the present square-topped windows which are very late Perpendicular or even Elizabethan. This sequence of events is borne out by the position of the second window from the west in the north aisle. It can be seen from the outside that this window is out of centre with its bay. Cutting into this bay on the inside of the church is a panelled ogee recess which allowed the original window to be in its central position. The larger, square-topped window could not be inserted centrally without cutting into the recess – and so had to be offset. Some windows from the original aisles still remain. There are fragments of mediaeval glass retained in the easternmost window of the north aisle. Above the windows some of the corbels appear to be Norman. At the east end of this aisle is the framed Joseph and Mary brocade. This was brought back from Italy by one of the Mildmay family.

The north aisle is somewhat narrower than the south and the roofs are markedly different. The south aisle contains the alcove referred to earlier and also the many memorial tablets of the Mildmay family whose pew was in the east end of the aisle. One of these tablets is of particular interest. It is to Humphry Mildmay who was taken up among the slain at the battle of Newbury in 1644. He lived till 1690! Of particular note is the coffered ceiling, the piscena and indent in the floor from which a brass has been removed. There surely was a chapel here. Chapels to St Michael, Blessed Virgin Mary, Holy Ghost and St John the Baptist all feature in local Wills prior to 1500. Now, in 1991, there is once again a chapel in this aisle. The chapel has been restored by Elwood J. Thacher of Winter Haven, Florida, U.S.A. in memory of his ancestor, the Revd. Peter Thacher, Vicar of Queen Camel 1574-1624. One of his sons, Anthony, emigrated to America in 1635 and Elwood is a direct descendant. This Memorial Chapel was dedicated on 9th June 1991 – the Sunday nearest to St Barnabas' Day and in our 700th anniversary year. Elwood Thacher took part in the service.

The FONT (c. 1400) made during the building period of the present Church is constructed in an unusual octagonal design. Four angle supports reach up to the brim. The figures in the design have been slashed – probably during the time of Cromwell. The fleuron frieze is similar to that above the wall plate in the chancel and resembles the one in the refectory at Cleeve Abbey. The cover, which is a memorial to John and Louise Gare, was made in 1959 and carries a quotation from the Gospel for Ascension Day – hence the serpents.

The LECTERN (1889) is a magnificent, well proportioned eagle firmly clutching a rock. It was carved in oak salvaged from the drawbridge of Edinburgh Castle which was being repaired at that time. It was presented to the Church by Mr Eustace Arkwright who, during a visit to Hazlegrove House, 'was much struck with the beauty of the Church and its perfectly conservative restoration'.

The PULPIT (c. 1840), built at the same time as the Rood Screen, has nodding canopies and niches which originally contained effigies of the Apostles. These were probably torn out in the time of Cromwell. The pulpit contains nine niches – the other three being in the door which is now displayed by the side of the pulpit. Prior to the restoration the steps were in the north aisle. In 1887 the door was removed, the pulpit turned clockwise and steps with an iron rail fitted to the fresh access by the screen. The rail was replaced by the present one in 1920 in memory of Leonard Court. There are traces of mediaeval colouring on the pulpit.

The ROOD SCREEN and chancel arch are late Perpendicular and were built together. It is of the five-bayed Somerset type as at High Ham (1476/99). The rood stair opens under the arch and climbs inside the turret to the rood-loft and roofs of the aisle and nave. The screen has never been dismantled since it was painted as the mediaeval polychrome is continuous over the wood joins and the nail heads. The polychrome was cleaned in 1974 by Anna Hulbert. During the cleaning a burn mark was revealed a little to the right of centre. This was caused by a falling candle and must have occurred before 1547 when candles were forbidden before the Rood.

The CHANCEL has a fine barrel roof embossed in fine workmanship (see diagram). The east window, late Perpendicular (c. 1476/99), is unusually tall. The stained glass depicting the Ascension is by Clayton and Bell and was probably installed as part of the 1887 restoration. The reredos (1904) is in memory of Revd. Charles Arundel St John Mildmay and the side tiling (1907) in memory of his wife, Harriet Louisa. The piscina

and sedilia could have come from the earlier church and can be dated before 1400. The hanging lamps (1888) were memorials to G.J.B. and M.E.H. They were electrified as presence lights (1978) in memory of Edgar Knight. The brass under the south window is the oldest in the church and is to Ellinor, wife of Arthur Bartha, who died in 1683. Although he was 'a merchant from Bristol' his family lived here.

The ORGAN (1893) was rebuilt in 1933 by Osmond. Electricity was installed in the chancel and to power the organ as a memorial to Frank Luther Burgess, organist 1891-1932 who was also headmaster of the local school for the same period. Electricity was installed in the rest of the church at the same time in memory of Revd. George D'Angibau, vicar from 1902-1934.

List of vicars from 1317 (at the west end).

1348/9	47.6% of clergy in the Bath and Wells Diocese perished in the Black Death. Were Peter de Tefford and John Moone among them?
1405	Robert Offcote was left 13s. 4d. by Robert Watts.
1455	Sir Robert Clerk, Vicar of Estcammel, was left 40s. by John Gilbert (buried in the church).
1499	John Jennying was left 13s. 4d. by Alice Montague.
1541	Leonard Portman was arraigned before the Star Chamber: forcible dispute as to churchyard timber and false imprisonment of plaintiff's servants in the stocks at Queen Camel. (Henry Moryce, John Eyre alias Drewes, Robert Whithere and others.)
1574/1624	Peter Thacher - an American descendant Elwood J. Thacher of Florida has produced an American geneology of the family and has donated generously to our church and cobbled path restoration.
1699	Wm. Kidley - unlawfully wed a couple.
1727	Wm. Smith - married Elizabeth Mallet of Marston Magna in January. His first wife died in August 1726.
1813	From the vestry accounts April 12th. By cash paid Revd. M. R. Pearson. Twenty pounds being the last instalments due to him from the Parish of Queen Camel on account of money lent by him for the purchase and repair of the poor house.
1887/96	Thomas Cromwell Bush - buried a black hunter in his garden.
1896/1902	Frank Mather - enlarged the Vicarage.
1944/48	J. W. Pearson - first to hold Queen and West Camel in plurality.
1948/52	Paul Bush - born in the Vicarage during T. C. Bush's incumbency.

CHANCEL BOSSES

EAST

	1 Foliage	8 Amphisbaena	15 Vine & Grapes	22 Basilisk	29 Eagle
	2 Oak Spray	9 Foliage	16 Griffin	23 Horned Sheep	30 Unicorn & Virgin
	2 Phoenix	10 Dragon & Doves	17 Hyena	24 Mantichora	31 Antelope
N					S
O	4 Aspido Chelone	11 Syren	18 Angel	25 Stag	32 Elephant & Castle
R					
T					
H	5 Merman	12 Tiger & Mirror	19 Rose Spray	26 Lion	33 Foliage
	6 Vine Branch	13 Camel	20 Foliage	27 Foliage	34 Pelican
	7 Foliage	14 Foliage	21 Foliage	28 Foliage	35 Ivy

WEST

The church was rewired by Paul Reeves in 1972. The sconces were designed by Charles Hopkins and are mild beaten steel. They were given in memory of John and Mary Windsor, Francis and Eva Atkins, Richard and Elizabeth Hurford and the Thomas family.

The entrance screen by Bernard Parker has emblems signifying the Province of Canterbury (Y) and the Diocese of Bath and Wells (X). The handles were designed by Charles Hopkins - the outer dragons represent the powers of evil, as represented in the Book of Revelations. Temptation, in the form of the forbidden fruit in Genesis, is broken when the doors are opened. As you leave you grasp the cross, simple and austere. The screen was donated in memory of Clarence Bishop, Charles Briscoe, Charles and Maryon Coaker, Alice and Leonard Gare, Edward Hartnell, Frank Marples and Dick Watts.

The churchwarden's staves commemorate Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee in 1977 and were designed by Charles Hopkins. They reflect the shape of the nave pillars. The heads, topped by a ball and cross within points hinting at a crown, carry emblems indicating aspects of society: order and defence - a sword, authority - a mace, caring pastoral services - a crozier and agriculture and industry - a sickle and hammer.

The standard candlesticks were given in 1967 in memory of Elizabeth Cordery Knight.

The lead on the tower roof bears the inscription D.W. I.M. 1753. On the south aisle roof is the inscription. S. Brooks, W. Vincent Churchwardens. A. Mumford. S. Petherton. 1887.

As you leave by the north gate note the three stone slabs with pivot and bolt holes. The two smaller slabs were probably part of a lych gate at the western entrance by the cobbled path, the larger one from a gateway once in the east wall near the oil store.

HISTORY OF THE BENEFICE

During the period from 1937 to 1944 Queen Camel and West Camel were joined, the Vicarage at Queen Camel was sold and the Incumbent moved to the West Camel Rectory. In 1978 that house was sold and the Rectory transferred to a temporary house in Queen Camel, and finally to a new Rectory there in 1980. The two parishes of Queen Camel and West Camel were joined with the parishes of Marston Magna, Rimpton and Corton Denham. The Revd. B. Lyn Morris was the first Incumbent – and also the last – as, in 1987, the parishes of Marston Magna and Rimpton were transferred to the Benefice of Mudford whilst the parishes of Sparkford, Weston Bampfylde and Sutton Montis were included in the new Benefice of six Churches – unofficially known as the 'Camel Train'. The new Benefice then left the Marston Deanery and joined the Cary Deanery.

Revd. B. Lyn Morris	Rector	
Charles Knight Gordon Moore	Churchwardens	1991

ST. BARNABAS CHURCH, QUEEN CAMEL

1291 **700th ANNIVERSARY** **1991**

Service of

DEDICATION

of

MEMORIAL CHAPEL

in memory of

The REVEREND PETER THACHER

(Incumbent of QUEEN CAMEL 1574 - 1624)

by

The RIGHT REVEREND E. DAVID CARTWRIGHT

SUNDAY 9th JUNE 1991 11 a.m.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 620 Pts 2, 3 & Doxology

5 Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the Head and Corner-stone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious,
Binding all the Church in one,
Holy Sion's help for ever,
And her confidence alone.

6 All that dedicated city,
Dearly loved of God on high,
In exultant jubilation,
Pours perpetual melody,
God the One in Three adoring
In glad hymns eternally.

7 To this temple, where we call Thee,
Come O Lord of Hosts today;
With Thy wonted loving kindness
Hear Thy servants as they pray,
And Thy fullest benediction
Shed within its walls alway.

8 Here vouchsafe to all Thy servants,
What they ask of Thee to gain,
What they gain from Thee for ever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in Thy glory
Evermore with Thee to reign.

9 Laud and honour to the Father,
Laud and honour to the Son,
Laud and honour to the Spirit,
Ever Three and ever One,
Consubstantial, co-eternal,
While unending ages run.

Page 237 Book of Common Prayer - LORD'S PRAYER, COLLECT AND SUMMARY OF LAW

Page 216/7 - COLLECT AND READINGS FOR OUR PATRONAL FESTIVAL OF ST BARNABAS

EPISTLE - Acts 11 v 22 Reader/Lay Assistant

GRADUAL HYMN 550

O Son of God, our Captain of Salvation,
Thyself by suffering schooled to human grief,
We bless thee for thy sons of consolation,
Who follow in the steps of thee their chief:

For all true helpers, patient, kind and skilful,
Who shed thy light across our darkened earth,
Counsel the doubting, and restrain the wilful,
Soothe the sick bed, and share the children's mirth.

Such was thy Levite, strong in self-oblation
To cast his all at thine Apostles' feet;
He whose new name, through every Christian nation,
From age to age our thankful strains repeat.

GOSPEL - St John 15 v 12 Rector

Page 240 - NICENE CREED

SERMON - The Bishop

THE DEDICATION

Elwood Thacher — My Lord Bishop, I invite you to consecrate this Chapel in memory of my ancestor.

Bishop — I am very pleased to do so.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation; through your goodness we have this gift to offer, the fruit of the skills you have given us. Accept it, and us, to further your purpose in the world.

Response — Blessed be God for ever.

In the Faith of Jesus Christ and for the benefit of His Holy Church we consecrate to the Glory of God this Chapel and its furnishings in memory of the Reverend Peter Thacher, Incumbent of this Parish from 1574 to 1624, given by his direct descendant Elwood Thacher, a citizen of the United States of America. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth, and all mankind, peace and concord; and to us and all his servants, life everlasting; and the blessing . . .

OFFERTORY HYMN 166 - from Day's Psalter in the year 1561

1 All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with fear, His praise forth tell;
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

2 The Lord he know is God indeed;
Without our aid He did us make;
We are His Folk, He doth us make
And for His sheep he doth us take.

3 O enter then His gates with praise,
Approach with joy His courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless His name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

4 For why? the Lord our God is good;
His mercy is for ever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

5 To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
The God whom Heaven and earth adore,
From men and from the Angel-host
Be praise and glory evermore.

Page 244 PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH Rector

Page 251	CONFESSION	Rector
Page 252	ABSOLUTION	Bishop David
	COMFORTABLE WORDS	Rector
	SURSUM CORDA	Bishop David
Page 255	PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS	Bishop David
	CONSECRATION PRAYER	Bishop David

THE COMMUNION

PRAYERS	Bishop David
BLESSING	Bishop David

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword:
His truth is marching on.

Refrain: Glory, Glory, Alleluia, Glory, Glory, Alleluia,
Glory, Glory, Alleluia, His truth is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgement-seat;
O, be swift, my soul, to answer Him; Be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on.

Refrain: Glory, Glory, Alleluia, Glory, Glory, Alleluia,
Glory, Glory, Alleluia, Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me;
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,
While God is marching on.

Refrain: Glory, Glory, Alleluia, Glory, Glory, Alleluia,
Glory, Glory, Alleluia, while God is marching on.

He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave;
He is wisdom to the mighty, He is succour to the brave;
So the world shall be His footstool, and the soul of time His slave;
Our God is marching on.

Refrain: Glory, Glory, Alleluia, Glory, Glory, Alleluia,
Glory, Glory, Alleluia, Our God is marching on.

St. Barnabas' Church, Memorial Chapel
Queen Camel, England, Sunday, June 9th, 1991
Rev. B. Lyn Morris, left, Right Rev. E. David Cartwright
Elwood J. Thacher, Thomas W. Thacher

St. Barnabas' Church, Memorial Chapel
Queen Camel, England, Sunday, June 9th, 1991
Rev. B. Lyn Morris, right, Right Rev. E. David Cartwright
Elwood J. Thacher, Thomas W. Thacher

Bishop's Palace
Wells Cathedral
Wells, Somerset, England

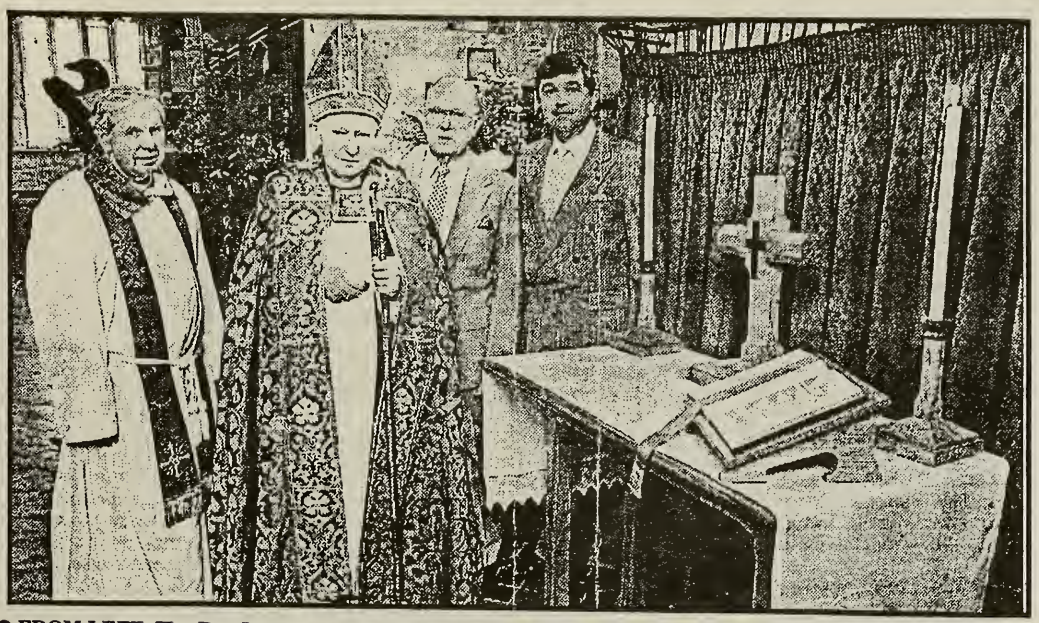
Service marks church double

A DOUBLE celebration of times past took place at St Barnabas' Church, Queen Camel, on Sunday.

The church was first mentioned in a 13th-century traveller's chronicle and the 700th anniversary of this was marked by the visit of an American benefactor whose ancestor, Peter Thacher, was vicar of the church from 1574 to 1624.

Elwood J. Thacher, aged 84, of Florida spent 60 years compiling 14 books full of his ancestral history. When he came across the story of Peter he donated more than £8,000 to reconstruct an altar and piscina in the church's south aisle.

A special dedication service in memory of Peter Thacher was conducted by the Rt Rev E. David Cartwright, retired Bishop of Southampton, before a 170-strong congregation including Elwood Thacher and his son Thomas.



● FROM LEFT: The Rev Lyn Morris, the Rt Rev E. David Cartwright and Elwood and Thomas Thacher at the new altar in Queen Camel church. *Picture by Eugene Tagilone.*

They were the first to take communion at the new altar together with the Rev Lyn Harris, the church's current vicar, builder Frank Taylor and his wife and church wardens Charles Knight and Gordon Moore.

Mr Thacher said: "The service was the most delightful I have ever been to. The bishop and Mr Morris had researched my records and, as far as they were able, reconstructed a service and hymns which would have been typical of Peter's era.

"I have always been interested in our connection with Queen Camel and Sunday was a special occasion for the family. We are delighted to have been able to help the church in some way."

Gordon Moore organised fund raising for both the chapel and a cobbled path restoration appeal six years ago, towards which Mr Thacher made a generous donation.

Mr Moore said: "We were thrilled with the way everything turned out and don't know how to begin to thank Mr Thacher for the help and interest he has given our church.

"We were delighted that he and his son were able to be with us on such a special day."

Queen Camel Brownies, Guides and Rangers led the procession in and out of the church and Mr Thacher was presented with an inscribed glass fruit bowl as a memento of the service which was followed by a celebration lunch.

Western Gazette, Yeovil, England

Commemorative Medallion 1291 - 1991
Front

Commemorative Medallion 1291 - 1991
Back

Gordon Moore
St. Barnabas' Church
Parish Clerk
1946 - 1991

Elwood James[II] Thacher
Memorial Hall
Queen Camel, England
Holding inscribed fruit bowl, a gift and a momento of St. Barnabas' Church's 700th Anniversary and the Dedication of Memorial Chapel, in memory of Rev. Peter Thacher, Vicar, of St. Barnabas' Church for fifty years, from 1574 to 1624 when he died,

QUEEN CAMEL, ENGLAND

Rev. B. Lyn Morris of St. Barnabas' Church presented the specially inscribed fruit bowl and the specially inscribed paper weight on Sunday, June 9th, 1991, following a delectable 700th Anniversary Celebration luncheon in Memorial Hall.

Remarks By Elwood J. Thacher

Thank you Rt. Rev. E. David Cartwright and Thank you Rev. Lyn Morris

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is indeed an honor and a privilage for me and my son Thomas to be here with you today on this very special Sunday, June 9th, 1991, to Celebrate the 700th Anniversary of your lovely St. Barnabas' Church.

It is also a special pleasure to have witnessed the Dedication of your beautiful New Church Chapel in the Mildmay Corner. A Chapel dedicated to the memory of Rev. Peter Thacher who was the Vicar of Queen Camel's St. Barnabas' Church for over 50 years, from 1574 to 1624 when he died.

It's over 400 years now, and more than 12 generations later since his ministry in Queen Camel.

I am Elwood Thacher, of the 11th generation. For over 60 years I have been collecting Thacher family information on the descendants of Peter Thacher.

Rev. Peter of Queen Camel has two very large branches of descendants in America, Yarmouth Branch and the Boston Branch.

The Yarmouth Branch Descendants are of Rev. Peter Thacher of Salisbury, a son of the Rev. Peter of Queen Camel. The Boston Branch Descendants are of Rev. Thomas Thacher a son of Rev. Peter Thacher of Salisbury, and grandson of Rev. Peter of Queen Camel.

Anthony Thacher, a Curate of St. Edmunds Parish Church in Salisbury, a brother of Rev. Peter Thacher Rector of St. Edmunds in Salisbury, came to America in 1635. He was accompanied by his nephew Thomas Thacher who was at the time a lad of 14 years. This Thomas subsequently became Rev. Thomas Thacher of the Weymouth Church in Weymouth, Massachusetts, in America in 1644, and after 20 years was ordained Pastor of the "Old South Church" in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1670, where he remained until he died in 1678.

Anthony Thacher and Thomas Thacher are the American Ancestors of thousands of Thacher Descendants in America.

I would like to mention on this occasion that for over 200 years following Rev. Peter Thacher of Queen Camel, the oldest son of each new generation carried on Rev. Peter's profession, as a minister of the Gospel. Not only did these descendants carry on his profession as a minister, they also carried on his name, "Peter".

The Rev. Peter Thacher of Attleboro, Massachusetts, in America, was born in 1785. He was of the 6th generation and the 14th oldest son in succession to follow Rev. Peter of Queen Camel. Rev. Peter of Attleboro, preached in Attleboro for 43 years.

As I mentioned earlier, I am of the 11th generation, since Rev. Peter of Queen Camel. I became a Civil Engineer and worked in that profession for 41 years. I retired almost 25 years ago.

Next month marks my 84th milestone and in all these years of writing about our Thacher family history, never, did I think that I would be privilaged to visit Queen Camel, it's Folks and the St. Barnabas' Church, where my most remote ancestor Rev. Peter Thacher preached for 50 years.

I visited Queen Camel in July of 1987 to see and walk on your restored 600 year old Cobblestone Paths, leading to the St. Barnabas' Church; and today June 9th, 1991 to witness your 700th Anniversary Celebration of St. Barnabas' Church, along with the Dedication of your lovely New Church Chapel.

I want to thank everyone connected with developing your New Chapel Project, and in particular, a very special Thank You to my very good friend and correspondent Gordon Moore, who advised me on the Project Development from beginning to end.

Thank you one and all for a very special welcome. Queen Camel and the St. Barnabas' Church will always be a part of my thoughts, and treasured memories.

Thank You One and All,

Elwood James Thacher
June 9th, 1991

100

Thacher dynasty alive and well

A FAMOUS name will shortly be commemorated at Queen Camel when the Thachers of Britain and America will be linked in a memorial chapel at the 14th century St Barnabas church.

The Reverend Peter Thacher was vicar there between 1574 and 1624.

Now, an 80-year-old descendant, Elwood J Thacher of Florida, has traced his family line back to the 17th century.

"Mindful of his Somerset ancestors, Mr Thacher has now donated more than £8,000 to reconstruct an altar and its piscina in the south aisle in their memory," said churchwarden Gordon Moore.

The America-Queen Camel link was cemented six years ago when Mr Thacher gave £700 to the church's cobblestone appeal.

"The 600-year old carriageway leading to the church, as well as a 150-year-old footpath, both cobbled, were in desperate need of sympathetic rennovation," Mr Moore said.

"We held an appeal 'selling' cobblestones and certificates of ownership at £2 a time and I got in touch with the Thacher family then.

"Elwood sent enough money to sponsor a cobble for every year since Peter Thacher's son, Anthony, first set sail for the New World from Weymouth in 1635.

"I also wrote to Denis Thatcher, thinking there may well be a link.

"He wrote back saying that he wasn't sure, as his family trace back to Berkshire in the 1600s — but he still sent us a donation."

So inspired by his ancestoral discoveries was Elwood that he started to publish "Thacher Quarterly", to which members of his vast family from all over the United States subscribe.

The first issue traces the family's history of pastors, covering a period of 227 years, starting with the Rev. Peter Thacher at Queen Camel.

A letter from Anthony to his brother, the Rev Peter Thatcher in Salisbury, relates a poignant incident in 1635 soon after Anthony, his wife and children had arrived in New England.

He and his cousin Avery had been invited to Marblehead to set up a church as the inhabitants, 'the most being fishermen, were something loose and remiss in their behaviour'.

Twenty-three family members set sail but 'before daylight it pleased the Lord to send so mighty a storm as the like was never known in New England since the English came.'

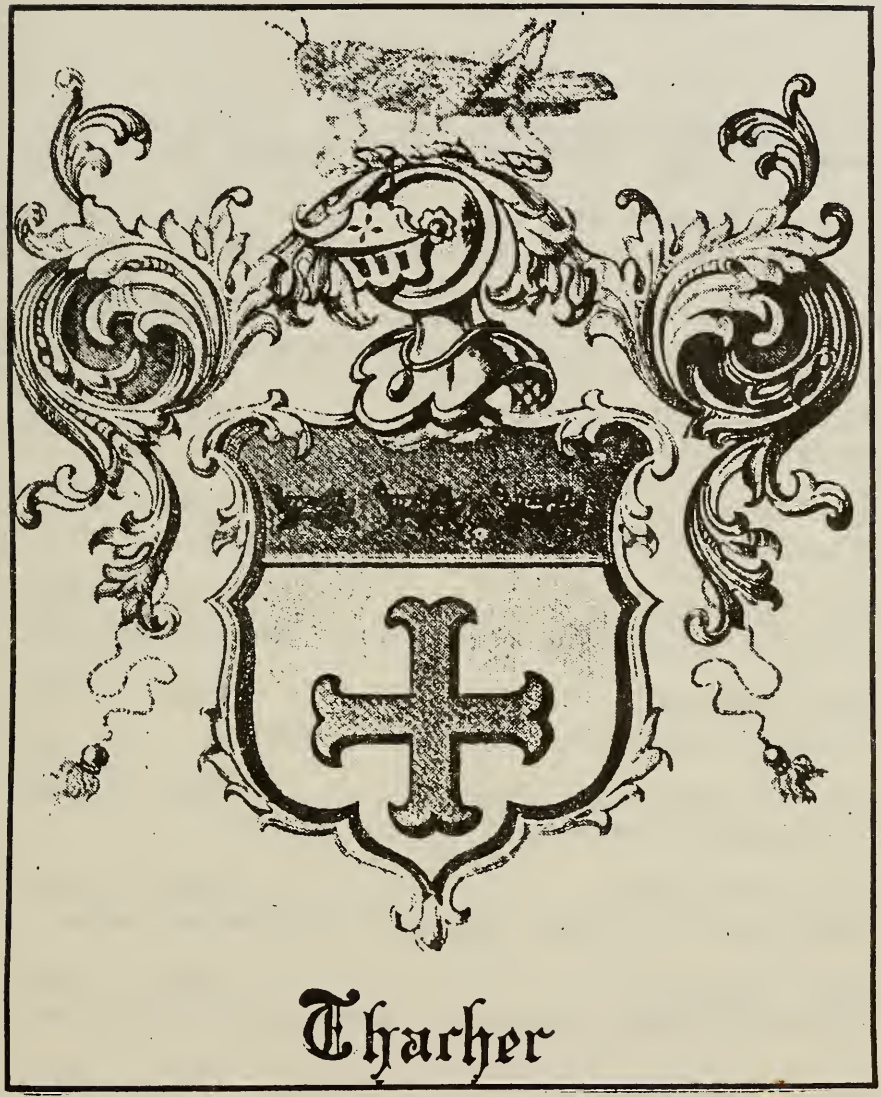
All but Anthony and his wife were drowned. They managed to escape to the island of Cape Ann, which from then on was named Thacher's Woe.

And it was in this way that the american Thacher dynasty was founded.

● ABOVE: Elwood Thacher and wife Fritzene. RIGHT: A Thacher brochure bearing the family heraldry.

A special service of dedication is to be held at St. Barnabas church, when the new chapel is completed, on Sunday, 9 June. Elwood and his wife Fritzene will, of course, be there.

Western Gazette, Yeovil, England



HERALDIC DESCRIPTION

ARMS: Gules, a cross moline *argent*; on a chief *d'or*, three grasshoppers, proper.

CREST: A grasshopper, proper, resting on a helmet, visor closed.

PROGENITORS

OF

ELWOOD JAMES[11] THACHER 1907 -
b-Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Living Winter Haven, FL

WILLIAM PETER[10] THACHER 1885 - 1957
b-Scott Township, Pa., d-Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

JAMES PETER[9] THACHER 1849 - 1920
b-Carbondale, Pa., d-Carbondale, Pa.

PETER[8] THACHER 1808 - 1888
b-Hartford, Conn., d-Scott, Pa.

PETER[7] THACHER 1770 - 1849
b- Lebanon, Conn., d-Hartford, Conn.

JOHN[6] THACHER 1739 - 1805
b-Lebanon, Conn., d-Lempster, New Hampshire

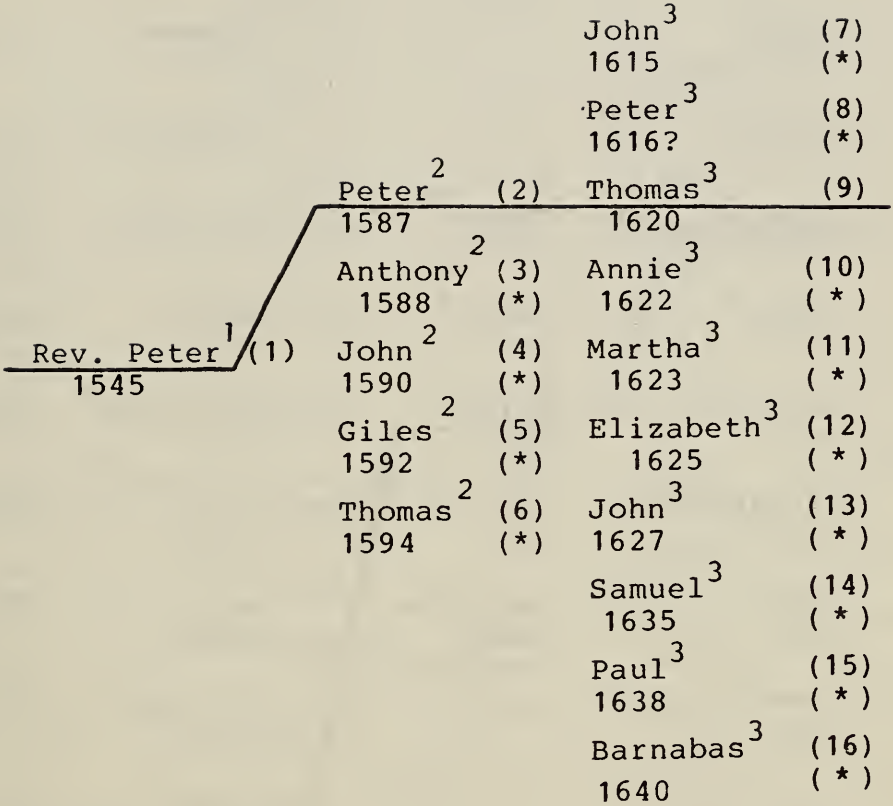
PETER[5] THACHER 1686 - 1766
b-Duxbury, Mass., d-Lebanon, Conn.

RALPH[4] (RODOLPHUS) THACHER 1648 - 1733
b-Weymouth, Mass., d-Groton, Conn.

THOMAS[3] THACHER 1620 - 1678
b-Milton Clevedon, England, d-Boston, Mass.

PETER[2] THACHER 1587 - 1640
b-Queen Camel, England, d-Salisbury, England

PETER[1] THACHER 1545 - 1624
Resided Queen Camel, England, d-Queen Camel, England



(1) Reference Index
Identity Number

(*) See Yarmouth Genealogy
Thacher-Thatcher Families

John[3] (*)
1615

Peter[3] (*)
1616?

Thomas[3] (9)
1620

Annie[3] (*)
1622

Martha[3] (*)
1623

Elizabeth[3] (*)
1625

John[3] (*)
1627

Samuel[3] (*)
1635

Paul[3] (*)
1638

Barnabas[3] (*)
1640

Thomas[4] (10)
1644

Peter[4] (11)
1651

Ralph[4] (12)
1648

Elizabeth[4] (14)
16--

Patience
(Kemp)
(adopted)

Thomas[5] (93)
1670

Elizabeth[5] (94)
1672

Ann (a)[5] (95)
1673

Ruth[5] (96)
1675

Rodolphus[5] (97)
1677

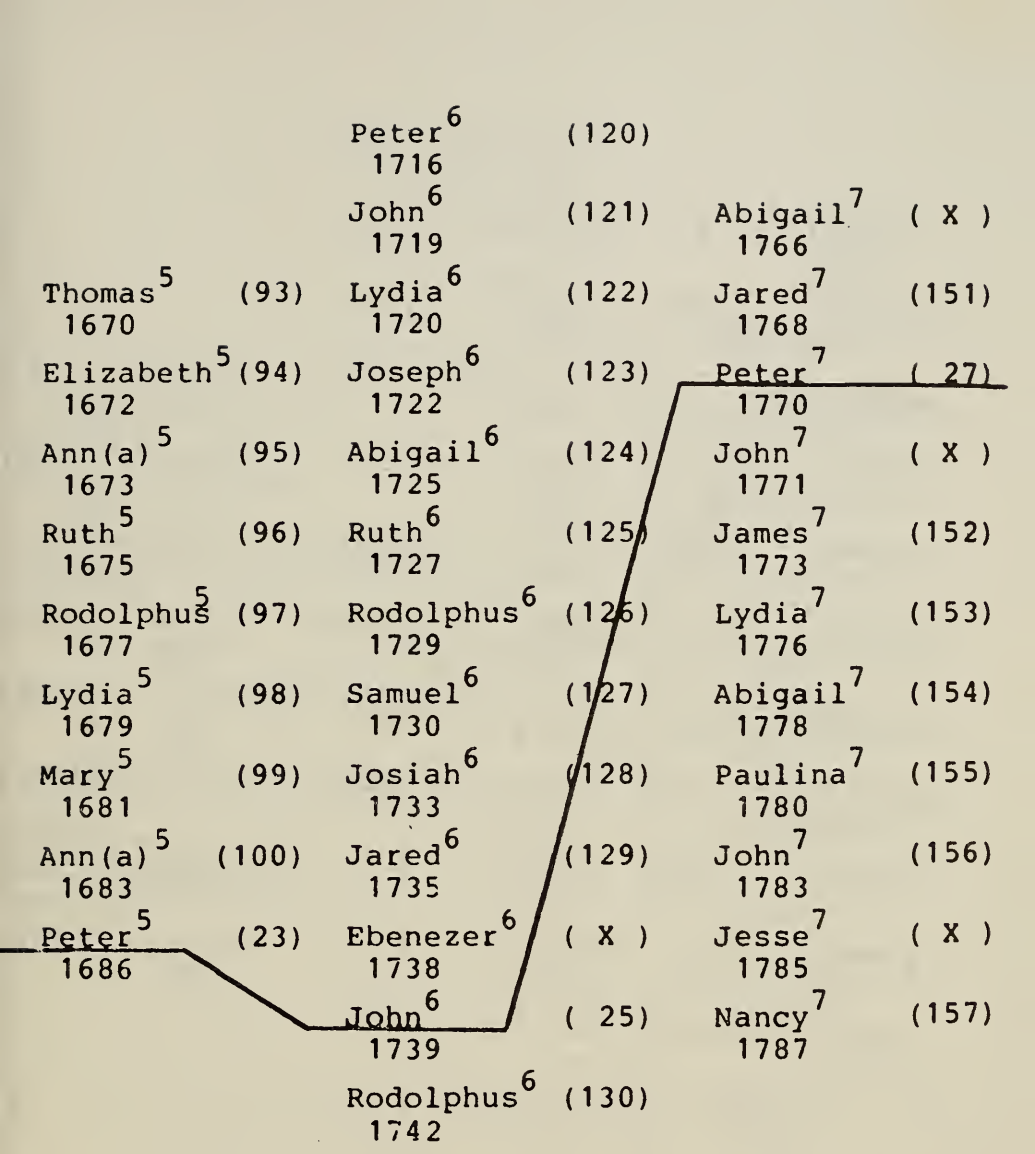
Lydia[5] (98)
1679

Mary[5] (99)
1681

Ann (a)[5] (100)
1683

Peter[5] (23)
1686

(*) See Yarmouth Genealogy
Thacher-Thatcher Families


Peter[6] (120)
1716
John[6] (121)
1719
Lydia[6] (122)
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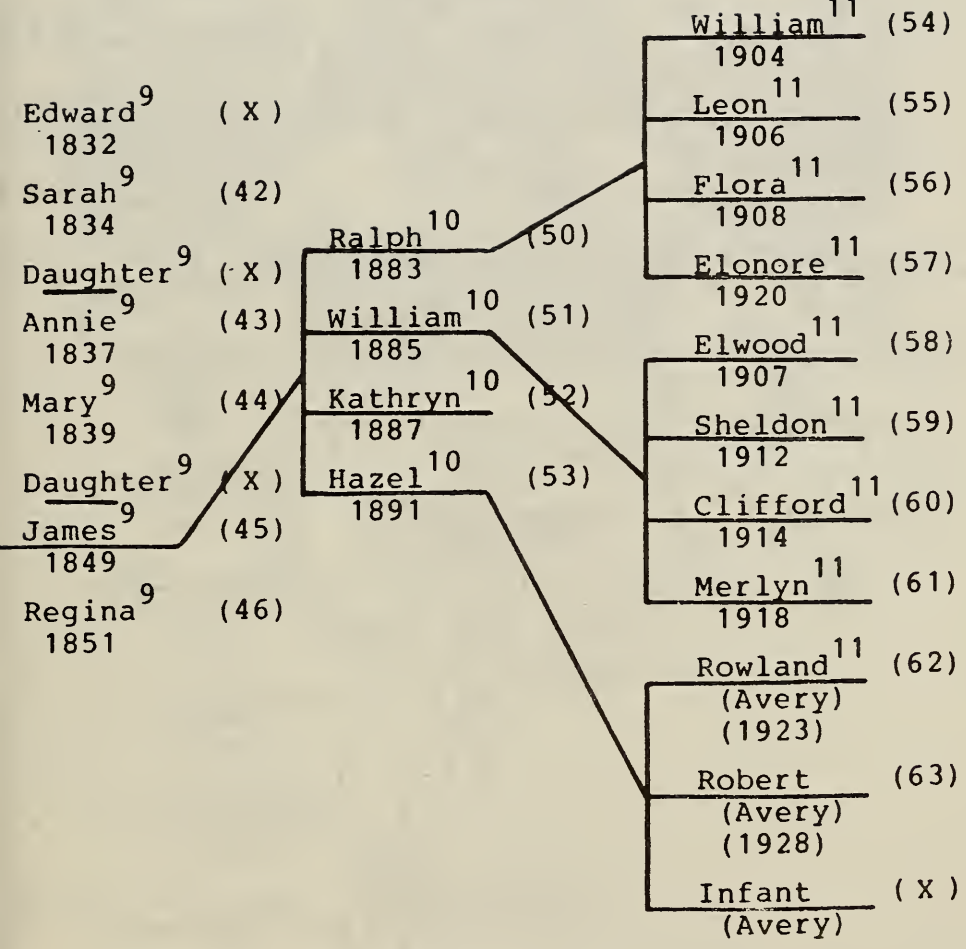
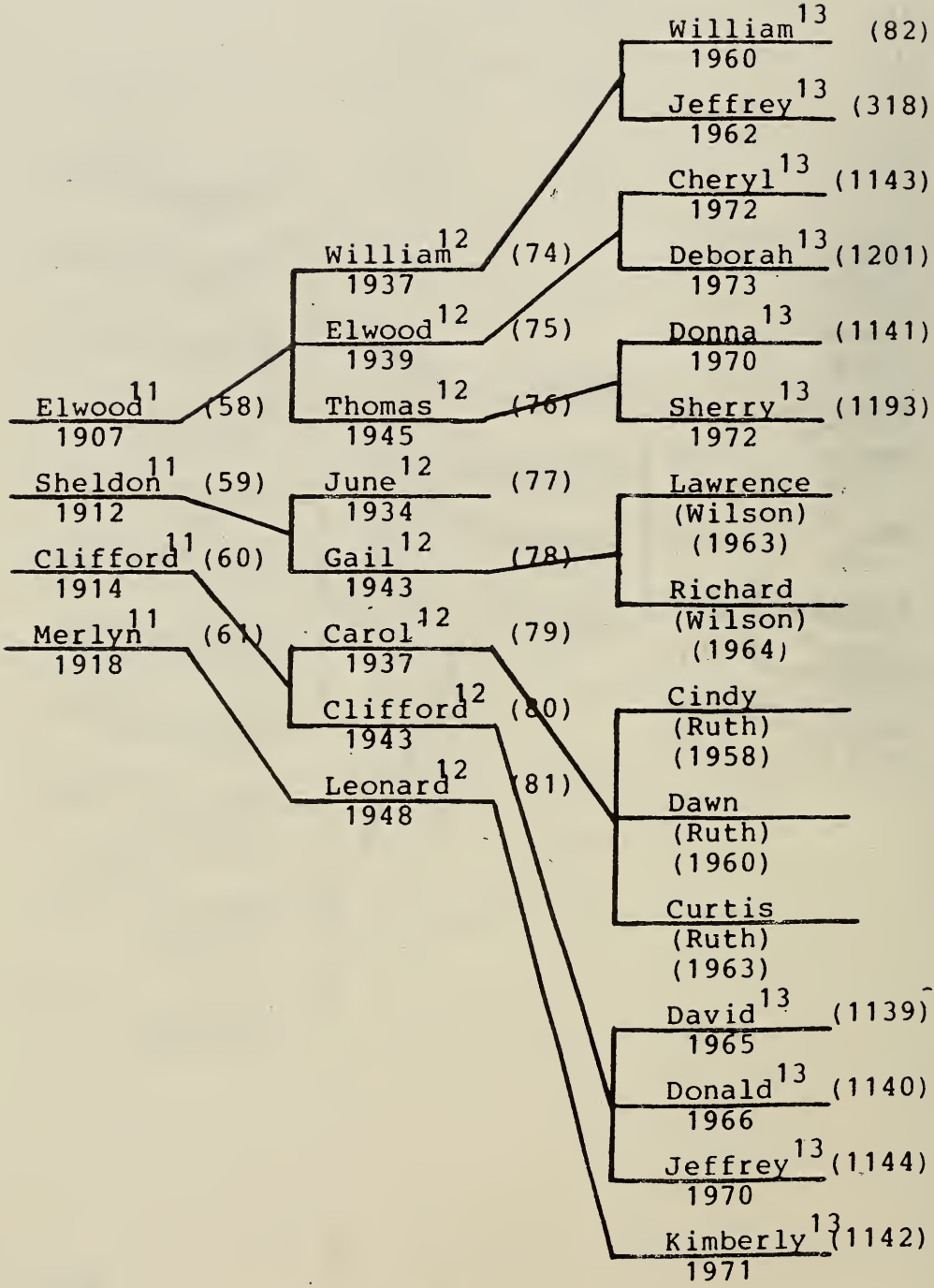
Joseph[6] (123)
1722
Abigail[6] (124)
1725
Ruth[6] (125)
1727
Rodolphus[6] (126)
1729
Samuel[6] (127)
1730
Josiah[6] (128)
1733
Jared[6] (129)
1735
Ebenezer[6] (X)
1738
John[6] (25)
1739
Rodolphus[6] (130)
1742
Thomas[5] (93)
1670
Elizabeth[5] (94)
1672
Ann(a)[5] (95)
1673
Ruth[5] (96)
1675
Rodolphus[5] (97)
1677
Lydia[5] (98)
1679
Mary[5] (99)
1681
Ann(a)[5] (100)
1683
Peter[5] (23)
1686
Abigail[7] (X)
1766
Jared[7] (151)
1768
Peter[7] (27)
1770
John[7] (X)
1771
James[7] (152)
1773
Lydia[7] (153)
1776
Abigail[7] (154)
1778
Paulina[7] (155)
1780
John[7] (156)
1783
Jesse[7] (X)
1785
Nancy[7] (157)
1787

(X) died young

		Augustus[8] 1796	(264)		
Abigail[7] 1766	(X)	Emeline[8] 1798	(265)		
Jared[7] 1768	(151)	Nancy[8] 1800	(266)		
Peter[7] 1770	(27)	Sheldon[8] 1802	(29)	Edward[9] 1832	(X)
John[7] 1771	(X)	Abigail[8] 1804	(267)	Sarah[9] 1834	(42)
James[7] 1773	(152)	Lucy[8] 1806	(268)	Daughter[9]	(X)
Lydia[7] 1776	(153)	Peter[8] 1808	(31)	Annie[9] 1837	(43)
Abigail[7] 1778	(154)	Elizabeth[8] 1810	(269)	Mary[9] 1839	(44)
Paulina[7] 1780	(155)	Apphia[8] 1811	(270)	Daughter[9]	(X)
John[7] 1783	(156)	Thomas[8] 1815	(30)	James[9] 1849	(45)
Jesse[7] 1785	(X)	George[8] 1817	(32)	Regina[9] 1851	(46)
Nancy[7] 1787	(157)	John[8]	(X)		
		Charles[8]	(X)		


Edward9 (X)
1832
Sarah9 (42)
1834
Daughter9 (X)
Annie9 (43)
1837
Mary9 (44)
1839
Daughter9 (X)
James9 (45)
1849
Regina9 (46)
1851
Ralph10 (50)
1883
William10 (51)
1885
Kathryn10 (52)
1887
Hazel10 (53)
1891
William11 (54)
1904
Leon11 (55)
1906
Flora11 (56)
1908
Elonore11 (57)
1920
Elwood11 (58)
1907
Sheldon11 (59)
1912
Clifford11 (60)
1914
Merlyn11 (61)
1918
Rowland11 (62)
(Avery)
(1923)
Robert (63)
(Avery)
(1928)
Infant (X)
(Avery)


Elwood 11 (58)
1907
Sheldon 11 (59)
1912
Clifford 11 (60)
1914
Merlyn 11 (61)
1918
William 12 (74)
1937
Elwood 12 (75)
1939
Thomas 12 (76)
1945
June 12 (77)
1934
Gail 12 (78)
1943
Carol 12 (79)
1937
Clifford 12 (80)
1943
Leonard 12 (81)
1948
William 13 (82)
1960
Jeffrey 13 (318)
1962
Cheryl 13 (1143)
1972
Deborah 13 (1201)
1973
Donna 13 (1141)
1970
Sherry 13 (1193)
1972
Lawrence (Wilson) (1963)
Richard (Wilson) (1964)
Cindy (Ruth) (1958)
Dawn (Ruth) (1960)
Curtis (Ruth) (1963)
David 13 (1139)
1965
Donald 13 (1140)
1966
Jeffrey 13 (1144)
1970
Kimberly 13 (1142)
1971

Tharher

HERALDIC DESCRIPTION

ARMS: Gules, a cross moline *argent;* on a chief *d'or*, three grasshoppers, proper.

CREST: A grasshopper, proper, resting on a helmet, visor closed.

In January of 1993, Elwood James[11] Thacher of Winter Have, Florida, received an honorary Scroll of Recognition from the officers and the members of St. Barnabas' Church Queen Camel, Somerset, England, Rector, Rev. B. Lyn Morris, The Parish Council, Peter J.R. Oxley, Chairman, and R.J. Giles, Parrish Clerk, Church Wardens, C.H. Knight, and Gordon Moore.

TO

ELWOOD J. THACHER

OF

Winter Haven, Florida, United States of America

FROM

QUEEN CAMEL, SOMERSET, ENGLAND

--- GREETINGS ---

Be it known that the members of St. Barnabas Church and the Officers of the Parish Council record their appreciation of your outstanding generosity to the Parish of your ancestor, Reverend Peter Thacher --- Vicar of this Church from 1574 to 1624. ---

The Cobbled Paths, Thacher Memorial Chapel and the Elwood J. Thacher Trust are permanent reminders of --- our sincere benefactor and friend. ---

You, sir, have forged a strong link between your vast country and this small parish in England. --- May that bond ever grow in strength. ---

St. Barnabas Church

B. Lyn Morris
Rector

Churchwarden

Churchwarden

The Parish Council

Peter J. R. Oxley
Chairman

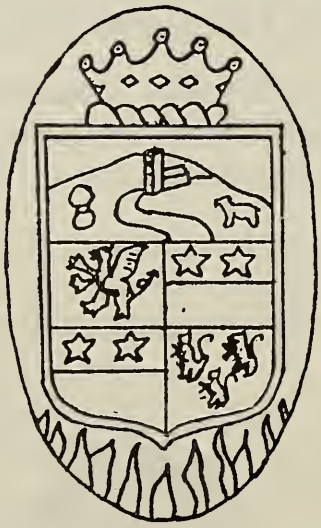
R. J. Giles
Clerk

Dated this twenty-sixth day of January in the year Nineteen hundred and ninety three.

QUEEN CAMEL

Yeovil, Somerset,

England



Royal Heritage

QUEEN CAMEL
Yeovil, Somerset,
England

The Emblem of Queen Camel came into existence as recently as 1975. It was devised by the Parish Council, to provide a motif for the Chairman's Insignia of office. It was designed by Ian D. Honey, Headmaster of the Countess Cytha, County Primary School.

The shield of the badge contains the Arms of the Mildmay Family, Owners of Queen Camel for nearly four hundred years. In the top left (dexter) quarter, the three lions have been replaced by the Wessex Dragon on a golden ground. This signifies the connection with Godwin, Earl of Wessex, whose wife, Countess Gytha (mother of King Harold), owned the village in the reign of Edward The Confessor (1002? - 1066).

Above the Arms is a country scene with, in the background, the hill from which the name, CAMEL, was derived, St. Barnabas' Church which was built as a result of the prosperity of the Fourteenth Century wool trade - depicted by the sheep, the River Cam, and a sheaf of corn to record the agriculture bias over the centuries.

Above the shield is a golden crown to denote the royal (Queen) connection; and below it, are the flames to recall the fire of St. Barnabas' eve, 1639, which destroyed most of the Old Village.

Since the production of the Chairman's insignia, the design has been adopted for village use - perhaps, Queen Camel is the only village in the West Country to have its own ties and blazer badges.

The Older Generations
1919 - 1969

They Did Something

A charge to graduates of Pennsylvania State University by president, Dr. Eric A. Walker, seems no less appropriate now than when first delivered. It is reprinted from the Buffalo Evening News. Ed.

Ladies and gentlemen of the graduating class and those who get advanced degrees. Let me extend to each of you my personal congratulations and those of the entire university on the degree you have earned today.

This ceremony marks the completion of an important phase of your life. It is an occasion in which all who know you can share in your sense of pride and accomplishment. But no one has more pride in your accomplishments than the older generation. But I am not going to tell that older generation how bright you are. Nor am I going to say we have made a mess of things and you - the younger ones - are the hope of mankind.

I would like to reverse that process. For if you, of the graduating class, will look over into the bleachers to your left or right, I will re-introduce you to representatives of some of the most remarkable people ever to walk the earth. People you might want to thank on this graduation day.

These are people you already know - your parents and grandparents. And, if you will bear with me for five minutes, I think you will agree that a remarkable people they are indeed. Let me tell you about them.

Not long ago, an educator from North-western University by the name of Bergen Evans, a radio performer known to your parents, got together some facts about these two generations - your parents and grandparents. I'd like to share some of these facts with you.

These - your parents and grandparents - are the people who within just five decades - 1919-1969 - have by their work increased your life expectancy by approximately 50 percent - who, while cutting the working day by a third, have more than doubled per capita output.

These are the people who have given you a healthier world than they found. And because of this, you no longer have to fear epidemics of flu, typhus, diphtheria, small pox, scarlet fever, measles, or mumps, that they knew in their youth. And the dreaded polio is no longer a medical factor. While TB is almost unheard of.

Let me remind you that these remarkable people lived through history's greatest depression. Many of these people know what it is to be poor, what it is to be hungry and cold. And because of this, they determined that it would not happen to you, that you would have a better life, you would have food to eat, milk to drink, vitamins to nourish you, a warm home, better schools and greater opportunities to succeed than they had.

Because they gave you the best, you are the tallest, healthiest, brightest and probably best looking generation to inhabit the land.

And because they were materialistic, you will work fewer hours, learn more, have more leisure time, travel to more distant places, and have more of a chance to follow your life's ambition.

These are also the people who fought man's grisliest war. They are the people who defeated the tyranny of Hitler, and who when it was all over, had the compassion to spend billion of dollars to help their former enemies rebuild their homelands. And these are the people who had the sense to begin the United Nations.

It was representatives of these two generations, who through the highest court of the land, fought racial discrimination at every turn to begin a new era in civil rights.

They built thousands of high schools, trained and hired tens of thousands of better teachers, and at the same time made higher education a very real possibility for millions of youngsters - where once it was only the dream of a wealthy few.

And they made a start - although a late one - in healing the scars of the earth and in fighting pollution and the destruction of our natural environment. They set into motion new laws giving conservation new meaning, and setting aside land for you and your children to enjoy for generations to come.

They also hold the dubious record for paying taxes - although you will probably exceed them in this.

While they have done all these things, they have had some failures. They have not yet found an alternative for war, nor for racial hatred.

Perhaps you, the members of this graduating class, will perfect the social mechanisms by which all men may follow their ambitions without the threat of force - so that the earth will no longer need police to enforce the laws, nor armies to prevent some men from trespassing against others.

But they - those generations - made more progress by the sweat of their brows than in any previous era, and don't you forget it. And, if your generations can make as much progress in as many areas as these two generations have, you should be able to solve, a good many of the world's remaining ills.

It is my hope, and I know the hope of these two generations, that you find the answers to many of these problems that plague mankind.

But it won't be easy. And you won't do it by negative thoughts, nor by tearing down or belittling. You may and can do it by hard work, humility, hope and faith in mankind.

Try it.

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